

HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
CHICAGO REGION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 13, 2025
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
Madden MHC, Room 1088: 1200 S. First Ave., Hines, Illinois

PRESENT: Judi Bradley, Kamil Brady, Gary Doherty, Joe Lupa, Michael Romain.

ABSENT: Linda Cervenka, Nicole Erickson, and Tiffany Johnson.

STAFF: Jeremy Polk (Disability Rights Manager - DRM), and Alejandra Meza (DRM).

GUEST: John Whitcomb (UChicago Medicine)

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Chicago Region was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by the Chicago Region Member Gary Doherty.

It was determined that a quorum was present. The confidentiality statement was read by Jeremy Polk.

Minutes: Meeting minutes were approved for the Chicago HRA December 17, 2024, February 18, 2025, and April 1, 2025, meetings. The motion to approve minutes was entered by Kamil, the motions was seconded by Judi. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

Communications: DRM polled members about the posting of provider responses to recommendations in HRA reports. The member voted to change both the Act and rules and allow the regional HRA board to decide whether or not the provider response should be public.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications:

23-030-9009 – Northwestern – There were no responses provided to these cases. Motion to close and publish was entered at the last HRA meeting. The motion to ratify this action was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

23-030-9034 – Madden – This case was closed at a previous meeting. The facility provided a response to all recommendations in the case. The motion to ratify the closing was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with the remaining votes.

23-030-9041 – Northwestern – There were no responses provided to these cases. Motion to close and publish was entered at the last HRA meeting. The motion to ratify this action was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

23-030-9043 – UCP Seguin – This case was closed at the HRA's previous meeting. The motion to ratify this action was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

24-030-9006 – Madden (informal) – Motion to close the informal case was entered at the previous HRA meeting. The motion to ratify this action was entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Joe. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

24-030-9023 – Northwestern – There were no responses provided to these cases. Motion to close and publish was entered at the last HRA meeting. The motion to ratify this action was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

24-030-9030 – Ascension St. Mary's – This case was closed at the February meeting. The motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

24-030-9032 – Ascension St. Mary's – This case was approved and closed at a previous HRA meeting. The motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

24-030-9039 – Montrose Behavioral – The report on this case approved at a previous meeting. Motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9007 – Chicago Park District – The report on this case approved at a previous meeting. Motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9021 – New Case – The case was forwarded to another region and no case was opened. Motion to ratify previous actions entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9022 – New Case – This complaint was not accepted for investigation. The DRM did call the facility in regard to the complaint. The motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9023 – Madden Mental Health Center – DRM received a complaint from a staff member of indicating that a facility was creating an unsafe environment for recipients. The complaint was referred to another agency. The motion to ratify all previous actions entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9024 – New Case – This case was closed as referred to LAS due to the pending treatment and medication petition. The motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9025 – Chicago Read – This case was opened for investigation at a previous meeting. The motion to ratify the previously entered actions was made by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9026 – New Case – This case was not accepted at a previous meeting. The motion to ratify the previously entered actions was made by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9027 – Thorek – The HRA motioned to open this case for investigation. The motion to ratify the previously entered actions was made by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9028 – New Case – This case was tabled at a previous meeting. The case was also not accepted at the HRA's April meeting. Motion to ratify actions entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Joe. The motion carried.

25-030-9029 – Endeavor Swedish Hospital – This case was opened at a previous meeting. Motion to ratify the previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried.

25-030-9030 – New Case – This case was tabled due to not receiving a release. Motion to ratify this action entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9031 – Endeavor Swedish Hospital – This case was previously opened for investigation. The motion to ratify this action was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9032 – New Case – This recipient is homeless and cannot be located. The recipient was also discharged from the facility. Motion to ratify previous actions entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

25-030-9033 – Madden – This case was opened at the previous meeting. Motion to ratify previous actions entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

25-030-9034 – New Case – The motion to ratify previous actions was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried. The HRA did not accept this case and referred it out to another agency.

New Cases:

25-030-9030 – New Case – A recipient indicates that he did not sign a voluntary application, and that the facility was holding him against his will. This case was tabled due to not having a release. There was still no received release after request. The motion to not accept was entered by Judi. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

25-030-9035 – Prime Health St. Mary's – A complainant reports that she was the POA for healthcare for a recipient of services. The POA indicates that the recipient was brought into the hospital, and he was not allowed to sign in as voluntary. The hospital filed an involuntary petition. The POA also indicates that she has not received any information about the recipient nor was she involved in treatment planning. DRM reached out to the hospital who indicated that an ROI had not been signed. DRM asked if complainant was given the opportunity to present proof of POA in which case an ROI would not be needed, and hospital then stated they have contacted her to discuss treatment. The DRM spoke to complainant again who requested that the patient's psychiatrist complete a CCP-211 so that she can file for full guardianship. DRM provided blank copy of CCP-211 to hospital social worker, but the psychiatrist reported not feeling comfortable completing the form. The recipient was reported to be not compliant with medications. DRM discussed discharge plan vs medication petition with hospital social worker, and they stated they would likely move forward soon with either one of those options. Recipient was discharged shortly after the conversation about medication petition. Case handled informally. Motion to open and close as handled informally entered by Kamil. The motion was seconded by Joe. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9036 – Hartgove – DRM received a call from the father of a recipient housed in a facility. The father reported that the facility was keeping the recipient without cause and threatening to contact DCFS on the parents. The DRM reached out to the facility, and it was reported that the family signed a voluntary and 5-day. The DRM also spoke with an attorney from LegalAid Chicago about this case. The Risk Manager also reported that the facility would be discharging the recipient. Motion to open and close as handled informally entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Kamil. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9037 – Hartgrove – The DRM spoke with the complainant about care received at the facility. The complainant reported that they felt coerced into completing a voluntary application form and medication consents. The complainant reported that there are two medication consents that are not signed with their handwriting. The medication is for Haldol and Ativan. The complainant reports that those medications were never given but the consent was not signed by them. The complainant also reported that they were sexually harassed, and it was reported but nothing was done. DRM forwarded this complaint to OIG. The motion to accept this case for

investigation was entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Judi. The motion carried with all remaining votes.

25-030-9038 – Ada S. McKinley – The - DRM spoke with the recipient via phone about issues with service provider. The recipient reported that the service provider did not include him in the treatment plan and did not provide the services established in the treatment plan. The provider was required to do medication monitoring and management. The recipient ran out of medication and could not get new medication due to the provider. ROI mailed to him this date. Motion to open this case for investigation into treatment plan issues entered by Judi. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9039 – Weiss Memorial Hospital – A complainant reports he signed in as a voluntary patient and completed a 5-day discharge request but was not discharged or provided with an involuntary petition by the date it was due. The involuntary commitment petition was provided later but the form was incomplete. Complainant reports the facility did not provide him with his rights upon admission. He was forcefully given medication with no restriction notices, did not participate in treatment planning, did not sign medication consents, and did not receive written information on meds until he had to continue requesting it. Motion to open for investigation was entered by Kamil. The motion was seconded by Judi. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9040 – New Case – A complainant reports that she signed a 5-day but was not discharged timely. She did not receive any notification of her change in status or any paperwork for a filed involuntary petition. She states that the psychiatrist said that if she did not take a long-acting psychotropic shot, she would not be discharged. She reports requesting to switch to another psychiatrist, but her request has not been honored. DRM emailed social worker who states that involuntary petition was filed on the 5th business day. DRM requested copy of paperwork be provided to patient. DRM also communicated request to switch to another psychiatrist. SW reports that discharge plan is being discussed with patient's daughter who is her guardian. Case was tabled due to not having a release. The motion was entered by Judi. The motion was seconded by Joe. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9041 – The Office of State Guardian – The DRM initially fielded a call from the complainant's sister. During the call it was explained that the recipient was being housed in a medical facility against his will due to OSG's involvement. DRM spoke with the assigned guardians and the DRM explained that HRA will not intervene and offered some placement resources. The DRM was informed that the provided information would be passed on to the judge in the guardianship case. Motion to close this case as handled informally entered by Joe. The motion was seconded by Judi. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9042 – New Case – A complainant states that she has been given multiple forced medications without cause. She states that she is allergic to Haldol and the facility keeps giving this as a PRN. Complainant also states that she has not been discharged and been subject to restraints. Complainant also states she was physically abused by a staff. The abuse claim will be forwarded out. Case was tabled due to not having a release. Motion entered by Judi. The motion was seconded by Mike. The motion carried with remaining votes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no motion to enter executive session as there was no quorum.

Case Assignments:

N/A

Draft reports for acceptance:

24-030-9029 – South Shore Hospital – This case was approved without issue. The motion to accept and issue was entered by Kamil. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion carried with remaining votes.

Accept responses, close, and publish:

24-030-9039 – Montrose Behavioral – This case was closed, and the report was approved. Motion to close entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Mike. The motion carried with remaining votes.

25-030-9007 – Chicago Park District – This case was closed and the reported was approved. Motion to close entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Mike. The motion carried with remaining votes.

Other unfinished business, announcements, and comments:

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn entered by Gary. The motion was seconded by Judi and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Lupa for Linda Cervenka – Secretary