

HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
CHICAGO REGION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
Madden MHC, Room 1088: 1200 S. First Ave., Hines, Illinois

PRESENT: Linda Cervenka, Gary Doherty, Nicole Erickson, and Tiffany Johnson.

ABSENT: Kamil Brady, Judi Bradley, Elizabeth Edelen, Joe Lupa, and Michael Romain

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

GUEST: N/A

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Chicago Region was called to order at 5:49 p.m. by the Chicago Region Member Gary Doherty.

It was determined that a quorum was not present. The confidentiality statement was read by Jeremy Polk.

Minutes: Meeting minutes were not approved for the Chicago HRA's last meetings as a quorum of members were not present.

Communications: DRM informed members about the annual trainings, introduced members to new leadership and updated them on potential remote meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications:

All ratifications were tabled as there was no quorum to vote on ratifying previous actions.

New Cases:

26-030-9008 – New Case – The DRM received several calls from a recipient. The recipient indicated that he was being held in a facility beyond his request for discharge. The DRM informed the guardian and facility about the MH Code requirements. The guardian provided a ROI. The HRA moved to accept this case for investigation. The case was motioned for opening by Gary. The motion was seconded by Linda. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

26-030-9009 – New Case – A recipient states that they were given forced medications without cause. There is no signed release, so the case was tabled. Motion to table entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Tiffany. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

26-030-9010 – New Case – DRM received a call from a recipient. The recipient reported that the facility was not responding to their request for medical and mental health services. The recipient also stated that the facility is not providing them with assistive devices to attend all their appointments. Motion to accept this case was entered by Nicole. The motion was seconded by Tiffany. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

26-030-9011 – New Case – A complainant states they were given forced medications without cause. The HRA motioned to open this case. The initial motion was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

26-030-9012 – New Case – A complainant reports that she is only allowed to access her personal box of snacks/drinks once per nursing shift. She also states that she is only allowed to get one item at time. There are also reports that recipients have trouble accessing sanitary pads from certain nurses. This case was accepted for an informal monitoring. The case was motioned to be opened informally by Gary. The motion was seconded by Linda. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Case Assignments:

N/A

Draft reports for acceptance:

24-030-9003 – Hartgrove – There were no violations present in this case, and it was approved without issue. Motion to issue the report was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

24-030-9020 – Hartgrove – There were no violations present in this case, and it was approved without issue. Motion to issue the report was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

24-030-9041 – Hartgrove – There were no violations present in this case, and it was approved without issue. Motion to issue the report was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

25-030-9014 – Hartgrove – The report for this case was accepted without issue. Motion to issue the report was entered by Linda. The motion was seconded by Nicole. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

Accept responses, close, and publish:

23-030-9039 – Hartgrove – The report for this case was accepted without issue at the previous meeting. The facility did provide a response. There was substantial discussion on the validity and efficacy of the facility's training. The HRA motioned to close this case but made a note to monitor the facility. Motion to close this case entered by Tiffany. The motion was seconded by Gary. The motion will be ratified at the next meeting with a quorum.

24-030-9034 – UI Health – This case was closed as there were no recommendations in the report. Motion to close and publish was entered by Tiffany. The motion was seconded by Gary. This motion will be ratified at the next meeting.

Other unfinished business, announcements, and comments:

The available HRA member discussed remote meetings and HRA rule changes around meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn entered by Tiffany. The motion was seconded by Gary and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Cervenka – Secretary