

**CATAWBA HOSPITAL  
CATAWBA, VIRGINIA**

**MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE NAME:** Catawba Local Human Rights Committee

**MEETING DATE:** October 16, 2013    **TIME:** 3:00 pm    **PLACE:** Building 24 Lobby

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dianna Parrish, Chairperson; David Lofgren; Dianna Parrish; Shannon Patsel; JoAnn Patterson; Valarie Robinson; Kaisha Williams.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cynthia Hall; Millie Rhodes

**OHR STAFF PRESENT:** Dwayne Lynch, Human Rights Advocate

**PROVIDERS PRESENT:** Molly Guzo, LPC and Kristy Karas, Program Director LewisGale Center for Behavioral Health – Salem  
Mark Lancet, Director, LewisGale Senior Transitions - Alleghany  
Walton Mitchell, III, Facility Director – Catawba Hospital  
Mala Thomas, Director of Behavioral Health, Carilion Clinic

**GUESTS:**    None

**MEETING AGENDA – MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED:**

1.    **Welcome and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order.
2.    **Review of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of July 17, 2013 meetings as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
3.    **Advocate’s Report (Dwayne Lynch)**
  - a. Mr. Lynch thanked Mitch Mitchell for providing a tour of Catawba Hospital for those members who chose to come early today. Members who were not able to join the tour today were invited to take a tour at a later date.
  - b. There is still one (1) vacancy for a consumer on the Committee. Members were asked to contact Mr. Lynch if they knew of someone they wanted to recommend.
  - c. Mr. Lynch distributed CHRIS reference guides to the providers to help them enter information on abuse allegations and complaints.

- d. The Office of Human Rights is still in the process of reviewing regulations. Feedback from surveys conducted throughout Virginia made several recommendations, including simplifying the complaint process. Following finalization by the Office of Human Rights, any recommendations for changes to the regulations will be sent to the General Assembly for approval.

**Review Date: No Further Review**

**4. Catawba Hospital Reports (Walton Mitchell, III):**

- a. Admissions and Discharges: Admissions and discharges this quarter have remained consistent with the previous quarter; however, there appears to be an increase in admissions so far this month. Median length of stay was in the normal range for the adult units; a few long-stay geriatric patients were discharged during the quarter, which accounted for the higher number on those units. There were a total of three (3) readmissions within 30 days for the quarter on the adult units and two (2) on the geriatric units. Readmissions are tracked in the hospital's Utilization Review Committee, and in each of the adult cases, readmissions were due to medication non-adherence once they left the hospital.
- b. Restraint Usage: Behavioral restraint hours and incidents increased during the quarter and were mainly attributed to two patients – one of those individuals also has intellectual disabilities and came to the hospital from jail where he had been off of his medications. Protective restraints usage (excluding enclosure beds) remained consistent with previous quarters; enclosure bed usage continues to remain low with 2-3 patients utilizing these for the quarter. Least restrictive measures are pursued prior to using the enclosure beds, and the level of treatment is reviewed weekly by physical therapy and the physician to see if the patient's falls risk has decreased. Patients utilizing enclosure beds have continuous supportive observation.
- c. Complaints / Allegations: There were a total of eight (8) complaints handled through the informal process during the quarter. All complaints were resolved in a manner acceptable to the individuals involved. One (1) investigation in which the Department of Social Services participated was concluded as unsubstantiated for neglect or abuse.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

**Review Date: No Further Review**

**5. Lewis-Gale Center for Behavioral Health Reports (Molly Guzo):**

- a. Admission & Discharges: Monthly adult admissions decreased from July to September; adolescent admissions increased throughout the quarter. There were no (0) adolescent/child readmissions in the quarter; adult readmissions decreased from five (5) per month in July and August to one (1) in September. The facility has made significant improvements in reducing

- the 15-day readmission rate. Ongoing efforts to decrease readmissions continue, with no trends or patterns identified.
- b. Restraint Usage: Although 2013 began with a higher than usual number of events, the facility has worked hard to implement trauma informed care initiatives to insure they are providing the least restrictive care. There were no (0) restraint events in August and September which was a significant decrease in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2013.
  - c. Complaints / Allegations: There were three (3) complaints addressed through the informal process during the quarter. All were resolved and no violations found. One (1) investigation was concluded as unsubstantiated for neglect or abuse.
  - d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

**Review Date: No Further Review**

**6. Carilion Behavioral Health (Mala Thomas):**

- a. Admission & Discharges: Admissions and acuity on the adolescent and adult units have increased during the latter part of the quarter. Readmissions within 15 and 30 days increased in July and then leveled out by September. Ongoing efforts to decrease readmissions continue, including following regional treatment plans and sending physicians to the Carilion Emergency Department to see patients before they are readmitted. There were no trends or patterns identified.
- b. Restraint Usage: The number of restraint episodes on the child/adolescent and adult units was high during the quarter due to acuity.
- c. Complaints/Allegations: There were two (2) complaints addressed through the informal process during the quarter. All were resolved and no violations found. Two (2) investigations were concluded as unsubstantiated for neglect or abuse.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

**Review Date: No Further Review**

**7. Allegheny Regional Geriatric Behavioral Health (Mark Lancet):**

- a. Admissions and Discharges: There was an increase in admissions during the quarter, including several referrals and admissions from Allegheny County. There were six (6) readmissions, which is the quarterly average.

- b. Restraint Usage: There was one (1) episode of seclusion and one (1) restraint that involved the same patient. Appropriate family members were notified. Following his stay at Alleghany, the 77-year old was transferred to Catawba Hospital.
- c. Complaints/Allegations: There were no (0) complaints or allegations during the quarter.
- d. Other Business: Mr. Lancet also reported the following:
  - The facility had a licensure inspection in July and was approved for three years.
  - The facility also received approval to provide ECT services.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

**Review Date: No Further Review**

## 8. Other Business

### a. 2014 Meeting Schedule

Dwayne Lynch presented the proposed LHRC 2014 meeting schedule to the Committee for review and approval. Mr. Lynch noted that he has moved the date of the meetings one week later in the month in order to give the providers additional time to compile/submit the reports and the members additional time to review them.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2014 LHRC meeting schedule as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**Review Date: No Further Review**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

**Next Meeting**: January 22, 2014

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Dianna Parrish, Chairperson