

State of Michigan
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 8, 2012

Mission

It is the mission of the Michigan Department of Community Health, Recipient Rights Advisory Committee to advise the Directors of the Michigan Department of Community Health and the State Office of Recipient Rights in order to ensure that the rights of individuals receiving public mental health services are protected and promoted.

Vision

It is the vision of the Michigan Department of Community Health, Recipient Rights Advisory Committee that Michigan values a public mental health system in which individuals receiving services are treated with dignity and respect, enjoy full and fair access to the rights accorded them and are free to participate fully in all aspects of their lives.

- ATTENDANCE:** Basil Scott, Pamela Stants, Michelle Milligan, Wayne Hogan
- ABSENT:** John Board, Vendella Collins, Kathleen Gross, Abdallah Boumediene, Susan McParland, Mark Reinstein
- STAFF PRESENT:** John Sanford, Alma Staton, Raymie Postema, Andy Silver
- PUBLIC:** Chad Witcher, OCCMHA; Denise Virgo, WCHO
- CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Chair, Basil Scott.
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** No quorum
- APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** No quorum
- PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
- DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

John Sanford updated the committee on ORR staffing issues. He had submitted three positions for approval with full support from administration and DCH Director. Information was sent to DTMB for position approval. Recently found out that all positions were denied. John is trying an alternative route to get two of the positions filled. He met with Director Dazzo and Nick Lyon this week and requested prioritization of the position at Walter Reuther Psychiatric Hospital (WRPH). John is working on other alternatives to get the WRPH position filled. He has met with Tim Becker, from Budget and will continue to work to get the position filled.

ORR Policies

John stated that last week a special meeting was held by Bureau of Hospitals/Centers, ORR and facility directors. The issue was Informed Consent policy there was a minor conflict and the issue was resolved effectively. At this point the only clarification needed is regarding the Seclusion and Restraint policy. The facility directors are looking at this policy and finalization will be forthcoming. John will review, sign and send it to Director Dazzo for her signature.

DCH Strategic Plan 2012-2014

The vocal point of the plan is on page 5. This plan is focused on the next two years unlike the previous plan that was only for one year. Last year's plan had more rights issues included in it. This plan has only one titled Ensure access to excellent and compassionate behavioral and DD services that applies to the Office of Recipient Rights. John met with Olga and said ORR's focus should be excellence in increasing customer service. It entails what are the services we are providing our customers. Discussion ensued.

The larger vision the Governor has is to reinvent government services and operations, which also fits into addressing the strategic plan for ORR.

Michigan Protection and Advocacy Services (MP & A) – Newsletter

In the latest issue of MP & A's newsletter, the agency has set forth it's 2012 platform on issues they intend to address.

- (1) To combine the two rights systems
- (2) Advocating for the rights system to become independent from the department.

This information as shared with Olga and Nick by John.

Director Dazzo

During the meeting John had with the director, she stated she is looking into all of the advisory groups in DCH. She wants some consistency regarding bylaws, function and responsibilities. It is important that each committee is properly represented and functional, with citizen participation. She asked John to assist her and she will be using our Recipient Rights Advisory Committee as a model for this process. At the next scheduled meeting with the director, John will provide her with our bylaws, functions and terms each member has served on the committee.

LPH/U – ORR Meeting

In February, Sue Witting and John Sanford coordinated a meeting between LPH/U rights advisors and the Office of Recipient Rights. During this meeting advisors concerns, interest and problems were discussed. Because of the great response, there were about 25 who attended and another 30 plus who called in on the conference phone, another dialogue will be scheduled.

A list-serve was started by Holland Hospital a mechanism to share information and ideas.

TRAINING UNIT – (Report was provided in member’s folders)

Training Activities

Basic Skills Training - Part I January 10-12, 2012	12 Attendees
Basic Skills Training - Part II January 24-26, 2012	13 Attendees
Building Blocks of Report Writing February 15, 2012	6 Attendees
Developing Effective Training February 9, 2012	10 Attendees
Report Writing Essentials January 31, 2012	34 Attendees

The Recipient Rights Advisory Committee webcast training is on the Office of Recipient Rights website. It offers an overview on the recipient rights committee.

The 2012 Recipient Rights Conference will be at the Troy Marriott on October 23-26, 2012. The focus will be on practical skills.

FIELD STAFF UNIT – Report was provided in member’s folders)

The 2012 assessments began this week at Montcalm County.

Walter Reuther Psychiatric Hospital (WRPH) has the highest number of allegation reports because of staffing.

Kalamazoo – A Criminal Sexual Conduct arrest has been made against a former staff for an incident that happened in 2004.

Hawthorn Center – Using staff from Hawthorn Center to help fill the gaps at Walter Reuther Psychiatric Hospital

Discussion ensued regarding staffing issues and will be put on the agenda for the next advisory committee meeting. It was suggested that a letter be written to DTMB and cite the issues that we are having at WRPH.

Restraint and Seclusion Status

All hospitals have been visited for Technical Advisory by SAMSHA. A task force will be organized based upon what recommendations are given.

Small changes are being made by facilities regarding restraint and seclusion. Such as triggers and early warning signs. Those procedures are being worked on at the facilities.

The departments' Trauma Informed System of Care meeting was attended by Raymie Postema.

OTHER BUSINESS

Basil briefly discussed the handout faxed in by Sean Bennett and distributed to each committee member.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The floor was open again for public comments.

Denise Virgo stated she agreed with Michigan Protection and Advocacy's position on combining state and local offices.

Chad Witcher stated the rights system should work harder and be more supportive and involved in families. The RRAC should work to put more pressure on the governor and legislators and help promote more community and public awareness.

Chad also complimented the ORR Training Unit for excellent training that was presented at Detroit-Wayne CMH.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned unofficially (no quorum) at 2:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2012, Lewis Cass Building, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room, Lansing.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Plan discussion issues to discuss with Olga Dazzo. Put together recommendations and suggestions.
- Staffing issues and number of complaints.

