



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

Recipient Rights Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2024

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Hybrid – Virtual and In Person at MDHHS South Grand Building

Present:	Tina Bertram, Chardae Burton, Melissa Callison, David Emmett-Hulet, Dr. Robert Lagrou, Elizabeth O’Dell, Margaret Stooksberry (virtual), Lynn TenBrock, Shaun Thompson
Absent:	Dianne Baker, Tammy Banker, Yasmina Bouraoui
ORR Staff:	Karen Currington, Raymie Postema, Andrew Silver, Edward Wilson Jennifer Gorman (virtual), Robin Vican (virtual)
Guests:	Director Elizabeth Hertel

Call to Order

Chair Elizabeth O’Dell called the meeting order at 1:05 PM.

The committee welcomed MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel to the meeting. Dir. Hertel provided comments about current needs in behavioral health services and encouraged committee members to seek opportunities for advocacy within their individual communities.

The committee welcomed new members Lynn TenBrock and Tina Bertram.

Approval of Agenda

Agenda was revised to include the approval of the October 10, 2023 meeting minutes.

Moved: Melissa Callison

Supported: Shaun Thompson

Motion carried

ORR Updates and Reports

Director – Raymie Postema

- Ongoing concerns at state facilities was discussed. Some facilities are struggling to balance the need for employee safety and providing appropriate treatment.

- Staffing changes within ORR: 2 training specialists positions were filled by current ORR staff. Hiring for 2 vacancies at facilities and 1 vacancy for an LPH rights specialist.
- LPH licensing rules are currently being revised, and LARA has sought input from ORR.
- The statewide Improving MI Practices online training is currently being reviewed for revision.

Education, Training and Compliance Unit – Andrew Silver

- Andrew Silver submitted a written report and was reviewed at the meeting. It was noted that basic skills training has been full for several quarters due to significant turnover in rights staff in the community.
- Quarterly meetings with CMH and LPH ORR staff have been well received and will continue.

Investigation Unit – Karen Currington

- Karen Currington submitted a written report regarding complaint investigation activities. Overall investigative activities has been challenging due to multiple vacancies.

Unfinished Business

Meeting Schedule Revisions: Results of the informal survey of committee members was reviewed and discussed. The committee agreed to meet quarterly on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. The next meeting is June 12, 2024.

2023 Annual Report: Report was completed and submitted to legislature as required.

Caro Facility Visit: Raymie Postema stated she will arrange a visit to Caro for the June 12 meeting. Carpooling can be arranged if needed.

Strategic Goals Subcommittee: Identified there were separate ideas for this subcommittee. Members wanted to both establish goals for the committee as a whole, but also review current Mental Health Code statutes and identify areas for revision. The committee agreed to discuss planning and establishing strategic goals during the next meeting. A separate workgroup to discuss and identify potential Mental Health Code revisions will meet April 17, 2024 at 10:00 AM. Robert Lagrou, David Emmett-Hulet, Melissa Callison, and Tina Bertram volunteered to be on the workgroup.

New Business

Cookie Gant Nominations: A request for nominations has been distributed widely. The committee will review nominees and make a decision on the winner at the next meeting.

Training on Recipient Rights Policies

Raymie Postema reviewed APF 191: *Right to Entertainment Materials and News*, APF 193: *Recipient Money*, and APF 194: *Communication and Visits*

Public Comment

None

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Meeting at Caro Center

Discuss the establishment of strategic goals

Cookie Gant nominee selection

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM