



STATE OF MICHIGAN
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
 GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH HERTEL
 DIRECTOR

**Recipient Rights Advisory Committee
 Meeting Minutes**

December 11, 2024

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

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

Present:	David Emmett-Hulet, Dr. Robert Lagrou, Lynn TenBrock (virtual), Tammy Banker, Tina Bertram, Yasmina Bouraoui, Melissa Callison
Absent:	Dianne Baker, Shaun Thompson, Chardae Burton, Elizabeth O’Dell
ORR Staff:	Karen Currington, Raymie Postema, Edward Wilson, Sue Witting, Andy Silver, Veronica Ryan, Tammi Leto, Cynthia Shadeck, Robin Vican, Paul White, Kelli Jones, Jennifer Gorman, Carla Coleman, Leonard Harden, Isabel Szymecko, Erin Jones, Kimberly Little, Christina Guerero-Beltz
Guests:	None

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by Vice Chair Robert Lagrou.

Approval of Agenda

Agenda was moved to be accepted as written.

Moved: Melissa Callison Supported: David Emmett-Hulet

Motion carried

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the September 25, 2024, meeting were reviewed and moved to approve as written.

Moved: David Emmett-Hulet Supported: Melissa Callison

Motion carried

ORR Updates and Reports

Director – Raymie Postema

- Audit from OAG continues but is nearing completion. ORR has been told there are 7 findings, and 2 have been received so far. The findings received pertain to training of employees and access to the complaint tracking system. ORR is working closely

with MDHHS audit staff to develop responses to the findings, and MDHHS administration has been supportive of the ORR during this process.

- Two open rights advisor positions have been filled and both employees have started.
- An MLive reporter has been contacting MDHHS communications as well as many other ORR staff across the state. He has stated he is nearing the completion of an article (or articles) about the rights system in Michigan.
- Pontiac General Hospital has been decertified by CMS and will no longer be paid to take Medicaid or Medicare patients. A plan for the patients still at the hospital is being developed.
- The Department of Justice has announced it will conduct an investigation of the State of Michigan regarding keeping individuals in more restrictive settings than is appropriate.
- ORR is working with LARA to update LPH administrative rules. Discharge planning is a particular focus. Robert Lagrou requested additional information and wondered if the RRAC could extend an invitation to LARA administration to discuss the new rules at the March meeting.

Education, Training and Compliance Unit – Andrew Silver

- Written report submitted to the committee was reviewed.
- There has been an increase in requests for LPH administrative staff training.
- Community rights specialists are conducting rights system assessments according to schedule.
- 5 patient deaths were reported to MDHHS ORR and are currently under review.

Investigation Unit – Karen Currington

- The written reports regarding complaint investigation activities submitted during the meeting were reviewed.

Unfinished Business

Strategic Goals for the Committee

- The committee's current review of legislative efforts was discussed and continues to be the ongoing focus.

Membership

- The committee still has one vacancy. An applicant representing CMH ORR has expressed interest, but at this point the committee wishes to focus on recruiting an individual to represent children/youth.
- The current chair Elizabeth O'Dell has been absent for several meetings. Robert Lagrou reached out to her to gauge her continued interest in the committee, but did not receive a reply prior to the meeting.
- Due to the Elizabeth O'Dell's continued absence, the committee moved to appoint Robert Lagrou to be the chair

Moved: Yasmina Bouraoui Supported: Tammy Banker
Motion carried

- The committee will appoint a new vice chair at the next scheduled meeting.

New Business

Future Meetings

- The committee wishes to extend an invitation to MDHHS budget personnel to review how the ORR budget is developed.
- Dr. Mellos was invited to today's meeting to discuss state facility changes but was unable to attend. He will be invited to a future meeting.

Current Legislation

- Two bills were presented in state senate, one of which could change the makeup of the RRAC. Senate Bill 1048 changes the Mental Health Code to require three additional members of the MDHHS RRAC. The three members must be representatives of various advocacy organizations. The bill also prohibits MDHHS executive leadership staff from membership on the committee.
- Senate bill 1049 requires voluntary patients to receive rights information.
- Due to these bills, the committee discussed how to best advocate and inquired if Senator Weber could be invited to a future meeting to discuss further.

Training on Recipient Rights Policies

Raymie Postema provided training to the committee on APF 171 *Use of Restraint and Seclusion*, APF 183 *Comprehensive Examinations*, and APF 192 *Personal Property and Search*.

Committee Announcements

None

Public Comment

Jennifer Gorman thanked the RRAC members for their work on the committee and expressed the importance of what they do.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Next meeting is March 12, 2025, 1:00 PM

- Conference survey results
- Review of APF 104, APF 105, and APF 106
- MDHHS annual report review

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:04 PM