EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY MINUTES
March 21, 2013

Vice Chair Mary Auth opened the March 21, 2013 meeting of the East Central Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) at 4:02 p.m. at the State Office Building, Main Conference Room, 2125 S. First Street, Champaign, IL 61820

Members Present: Vice Chair Mary Auth, Sandra Dixon, Jack Li, George Roth and Janet Manning

Members Absent: Chair Larry Phillips, Annette Becherer, Sandra Kopels, and, Babette Leek,

Staff Present: Cathy Wolf and Danitra Pope

Guests: Andre Moore

Vice Chair Mary Auth stated that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings to protect the privacy of those persons with disabilities on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

Introductions were made.

MINUTES:
Vice Chair Mary Auth made a motion to approve the January 15, 2012 meeting minutes after being edited; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:
IGA annual conference and training on 4/24/13 and Illinois Imagines Emergency Responder Training on 4/1/13 were announced. The coordinator mentioned that both trainings are free and CEU and MCLE credits would be available at both training.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications
None

New Complaints
12-060-9015 - CILA Home - The complaint alleges that an individual living in a CILA was hit by another consumer. This was not the first time he was hit by the same resident. Staff at the home had given the consumer medications that had been ordered to be discontinued by his physician. Janet Manning made a motion to accept; the motion was seconded and carried.

12-060-9016 & 12-060-9017 - Both are intermediate care facilities for developmentally disabled (ICFDD) owned by the same corporation - These complaints included 6 pages regarding both ICFDD's listing 15 main complaints for the HRA to consider for investigation. The complaints are from a former complainant who is in a judicial battle over retaining co-

guardianship against the other co-guardian. The facilities are supporting the co-guardian who is not the complainant and appear to be retaliating against the complainant for making a HRA complaint. Both co-guardians have either had limited access or no contact orders from the individual who has lived in these facilities by the court. Both the Director and the Chairperson reviewed these complaints with the coordinator and it was determined that there are only 3 potential complaints that could be investigated because the rest are tied to the court case regarding guardianship and/or would be out of the scope of what the HRA could investigate. The 3 possible complaints are inappropriate transfer, missing property and inadequate grievance process.

It was suggested by the Director, to call the individual with the disability, to ask him about the missing property, the transfer and if he wanted representation to protect his rights. When the coordinator called the individual he stated he liked his home and he thought the staff were nice there. He did not like a particular house mate. He did have property missing and he would like an attorney to protect his rights.

The coordinator obtained a release to talk to Equip for Equality and has been in contact with an attorney from that agency. The attorney is considering providing representation for the individual in the guardianship case to protect his rights. There has been an update, per the court order the guardian who signed the release for these complaints was removed as the individual's co-guardian. The coordinator called the individual's current guardian. Per discussion with the individual's only guardian she did not feel that the HRA should investigate these complaints. She stated the transfer was in the best interest of her ward for his own safety. The missing property was a CD he had taken to work and lost, which she felt was his responsibility. At this time she did not feel that she or her ward has any issues with these providers. George Roth made a motion to not accept; the motion was seconded and carried.

13-060-9013 - Possibly a CILA - This case was an intake complaint that simply states that the caller was upset about the way her daughter's transfer from one facility to another was handled. The coordinator had made several attempts to return the phone call, but no one answers and there was no answering machine to leave a message on. No return calls from this number have been received. It was decided to table the complaint to the next meeting to allow the complainant more time to contact the coordinator.

13-060-9014 - State Agency - The complaint alleges that two children were taken into protective custody. One of the children has autism, but both exhibit signs of post traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD). The complaint alleges the agency has failed to provide access to medical care, therapy and counseling services for these children. The agency has failed to make appropriate referrals to law enforcement when there was evidence that one or both of the children may have endured acts of torture and protect the children from further harm. A release was signed by a current caretaker, but it is not valid. The state agency must sign the release for records or we can ask for masked records to investigate. Sandra Dixon made a motion to accept; the motion was seconded and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The HRA went into closed session at 4:09 p.m. pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act. The Authority met in closed session to review confidential information related to case progress reports, reports of findings, responses to reports, and case closures. The Authority returned to open session at 4:13 p.m. having taken no action in closed session.

CASE PROGRESS REPORTS:

13-060-9005: Cunningham Children's Home - The site visit was discussed. A follow-up site visit to tour the facilities would be scheduled.

13-060-9010: Shapiro Developmental Center - George Roth will be attending the site with the coordinator and the intern.

13-060-9011: Advocate BroMenn Behavioral Health Unit - The site visit was discussed. The report is in progress.

REPORT OF FINDINGS:
The HRA again went into closed session at 4:25 p.m. pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act. The Authority returned to open session at 4:31 p.m. having taken no action in closed session.

11-060-9009: Veteran's Administration - Jack Li made a motion to approve the report; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

11-060-9012: The Pavilion - George Roth made a motion to approve the report; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

13-060-9007: Provena Saint Mary's Hospital - Sandra Dixon made a motion to approve the report; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

13-060-9012: Mclean County Mental Health Center - George Roth made a motion to accept the report; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

CASE CLOSURES:
12-060-9006: Crosspoint - Janet Manning made a motion to close the case and make the findings public; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
None

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chair Mary Auth made a motion to adjourn at 4:56 p.m.; the motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Cathy Wolf, Recorder