

Gracedale Advisory Board
September 13, 2018
Minutes

Members Present: Deborah Jean DeNardo, Lori Vargo Heffner, Maryann Schmoyer, LuAnn Vogel, MaryAnn McEvoy

Members Absent: Kenneth Sun, Rosemarie Fehr, Susan Lawrence, James Irwin

Public Present: None

Staff Present: Raymond Soto, Susan Wandalowski, Amy Kahler, Dawn Tuersfeldman

Call to Order/Welcome:

The meeting was called to order by L. Vargo Heffner. She welcomed everyone.

Approval of June's Minutes:

A motion was made by Maryann Schmoyer and seconded by Susan Wandalowski to accept the minutes from the August meeting, once the amendment is made. Motion carried.

Courtesy of the Floor:

By Guests: S. Wandalowski welcomed and introduced D. Tuersfeldman our new Director of Nursing.

By Board Members:

None

Chair Report:

None

Director of Human Services Report:

S. Wandalowski announced the mental health program that will be starting towards the end of the year, working with the mentally ill residents along with training/assisting staff on how to care and appropriately interact with the residents. They will be evaluating 5-10 residents at first and would like to grow from there.

Gracedale Administrator's Report:

Admissions are 672 which is above the benchmark of 670. Medicare A stays are up from 19.1 to 27.

Cost per resident remains the same. Medicare reimbursement rate has decreased from \$647.51 to \$459.30.

We continue our efforts in recruiting new staff to fill our positions. Our agency hours have decreased since June.

We have had no visits from department of health, but we are in our open survey window.

Quality measures are trending positive with a slight increase in falls with major injury, slight increase in short term pain and slight increase in weight loss.

Sick callouts have increased, FMLA and IFMLA's have decreased. RN turnover rates have increased while LPN turnover rates have remained the same and CNA turnover rates have decreased.

Other Business:

It was asked why Gracedale is doing away with the Halloween Parade – that we are taking away too much from the residents and that they really did love it. S. Wandalowski was not aware of this and will follow up.

Numerous members voiced how they are upset that something could not be done about Family Fest. R. Soto advised due to weather this could not take place.

It was asked what the real purpose of the Gracedale Advisory Board meeting is and what is expected of the meetings. Board members would like to help Gracedale, be able to give something back, and report to others when asked. Let's think about problems/issues before they get worse and see what we can do to prevent it getting worse. A member thinks it is a great idea to keep traditions. Another member tries to attend meetings but feels she is not contributing enough. Thinks it would help if members of committee could plan to speak with staff/residents about issues or what the needs are and go from there.

Numerous members walked down into the Gardens and advised it looks like it could use a sprucing up. R.Soto advised that due to rain it has been put off a little.

Any concerns or thoughts could be emailed to R. Soto indicating purpose of group and can be brought to the next meeting. At the Prison board meetings, they hold the meeting, then go and speak with staff/prisoners, and then report back to finish meeting and report any issues or concerns.

All agreed to have purpose of group revisited.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be held on October 11, 2018, at 4:30 PM. M. McEvoy advised she will not be present at next meeting.

A motion was made by L. Vargo Heffner and seconded by M. Schmoyer to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy E. Kahler