Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Discipline Sub-Committee Agenda
March 26, 2019  MINUTES  3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

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Committee Members:
Adam Canary, LPN, Chair
Edie Higby, Public Member
Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN  *excused at NCSBN Midyear*
Sharon Ness, RN
Tiffany Randich, LPN
Tracy Rude, LPN ad hoc  *excused at NCSBN Midyear*
Dawn Morrell, RN, BSN, CCRN

Staff:
Catherine Woodard, Associate Director, Discipline
Karl Hoehn, Legal Manager
Grant Hulteen, Chief Investigator
John Furman, Director, WHPS
Helen Budde, Case Manager

Public:
Diane Sampson; Gonzaga University
Laura Hoffman, Leading Age
I. 3:30 PM Opening – Adam
   - Call to order – Digital recording announcement
     
     Meeting called to order at 3:32 pm.
   - Roll call

II. Minutes – Adam
   - February 12, 2019 Approved
   - February 26, 2019 Approved

III. Review of March 8, 2019 commission meeting – Adam
   o Adam touched on the highlights of the March 9th commission meeting.

IV. Performance Measures (Investigations, Legal, and WHPS) – Grant, Karl, and John
   o We are losing ground in investigations; however, we hired an experienced non-perm investigator who begins on April 16th.
   o We continue to see an increase in cases opened to investigations.
   o Adam asked about budget considerations and if we will hire more staff attorneys? Catherine described the probable mix of more Discipline staff if the decision package passes, which includes staff attorneys.
   o John discussed some of the particulars of an unusual case on the WHPS compliance report. Also, he explained that darker hair tends to absorb more drug metabolites.
   o The new monthly reports from Recovery Trek should be available soon. Staff are transitioning to the new program.

V. CPEP discussion – Adena Nolet
   o Adena described the services offered by the Center for Personalized Education for Professionals (CPEP).
   o Adena recommends using CPEP more for nurses under discipline and can be used for many different allegations. It is geared to all professionals.
   o CPEP (Bill O’Neill) is willing and able to come to WA to make a presentation at a commission meeting, or do a webinar. Adam would like to see this as an agenda item for a commission meeting.

VI. Demographics of nurses under investigation – Adena and Catherine
   o The subcommittee would like to see a breakdown of the age of nurses under investigation. Adena will have this ready for the April meeting.
   o Most of the nurses are from the Seattle area, and many are from WSU. Adena will also get the NCLEX pass rates for April.
   o Dawn M noted that there is a big shift in institutions when big corporations take over. Instead of working to correct nurses or perhaps relocating them to a better-suited position, they just fire the nurse.
   o Karl talked about the spike in complaints. Might this be related to new owners who comes to long term care (LTC) and fire senior nurses with high salaries and benefits, to replace them with younger nurses who have lower salaries?
   o Adam says he has seen new leadership come in and shake up old ways.
   o Karl noted the trend in LTC is to fire instead of train and remediate.

VII. Review requested change to WHPS procedure – John
Requested change: Allow retired licensees to act as peer support group facilitators
  ○ This discussion was put over to the April meeting, as Tracy and Lois (who wanted to discuss the possible changes) were not available to discuss.

VIII. Newsletter article – Catherine
  ○ Catherine submitted an article on “Disclosing Criminal History: Honesty is the Best Policy.” We intend to post the information on the Nursing webpage, also.

IX. Work Plan – Adam
Review status of items on the work plan
  ○ Make sure the commission members get the information about the KSTAR webinar.
  ○ Will report the results of using team-based expedited case dispositions at the May commission meeting. (It’s not saving any time.)

X. Meeting Evaluation – All
  ○ Interesting information presented tonight. Looking forward to hearing more about CPEP.
  ○ Interesting.... thanks for all the work.
  ○ Good meeting; pleasure to work with all of you.
  ○ Good meeting. Thanks, Adena, for the information.
  ○ Credit is due to the IT department for getting the reports we wanted.
  ○ Thanks for the hard work.
  ○ Adena’s presentation was wonderful; you can’t give that away to IT.
  ○ Thanks to the staff: you make the meeting. And thanks to Adena.

XI. Closing
  ○ Adjourned at 4:30pm