

Client Rights for individuals who have developmental disabilities
Section 5123.62 Bill of Rights

The rights of persons with mental retardation and developmental disabilities include, but are not limited to:

- A. The right to be treated at all times with courtesy and respect and with full recognition of their dignity and individuality;
- B. The right to an appropriate, safe, and sanitary living environment that complies with local, state, and federal standards and recognizes the persons' need for privacy and independence;
- C. The right to food adequate to meet accepted standards of nutrition;
- D. The right to practice the religion of their choice or to abstain from the practice of religion;
- E. The right of timely access to appropriate medical or dental treatment;
- F. The right of access to necessary ancillary services including, but not limited to, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and behavior modification and other psychological services;
- G. The right to receive appropriate care and treatment in the least intrusive manner;
- H. The right to privacy, including both periods of privacy and places of privacy;
- I. The right to communicate freely with persons of their choice in any reasonable manner they choose;
- J. The right to ownership and use of personal possessions so as to maintain individuality and personal dignity;
- K. The right to social interaction with members of either sex;
- L. The right of access to opportunities that enable individuals to develop their full human potential;
- M. The right to pursue vocational opportunities that will promote and enhance economic independence;
- N. The right to be treated equally as citizens under the law;
- O. The right to be free from emotional, psychological, and physical abuse;
- P. The right to participate in appropriate programs of education, training, social development, and habilitation and in programs of reasonable recreation;
- Q. The right to participate in decisions that affect their lives;
- R. The right to select a parent or advocate to act on their behalf;
- S. The right to manage their personal financial affairs, based on individual ability to do so;
- T. The right to confidential treatment of all information in their personal and medical records;
- U. The right to voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services without restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal;
- V. The right to be free from unnecessary chemical or physical restraints;
- W. The right to participate in the political process;
- X. The right to refuse to participate in medical, psychological, or other research or experiments.

If you have questions or concerns about your rights, you may call Ohio Legal Rights Service's state-wide toll free intake service at 1-800-282-9181.

CLIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

(as related to the Bill of Rights)

- A. The right to be treated at all times with courtesy and respect and with full recognition of their dignity and individuality. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to treat others with the same courtesy and respect.
- B. The right to an appropriate, safe, and sanitary living environment that complies with local, state, and federal standards and recognizes the persons' need for privacy and independence. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to keep that living environment clean and sanitary to the best of their abilities, as well as recognize that complete privacy and independence is something we all compromise when living in a group setting based on our need for support.
- C. The right to food adequate to meet accepted standards of nutrition. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to not steal food from others or over-indulge to the point of an unhealthy style of living.
- D. The right to practice the religion of their choice or to abstain from the practice of religion. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to act in a socially acceptable manner that does not put the members of their congregation in compromising positions.
- E. The right of timely access to appropriate medical or dental treatment. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to accept appropriate treatment and not insist on excessive treatment.
- F. The right of access to necessary ancillary services including, but not limited to, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and behavior modification and other psychological services. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to accept necessary ancillary services and abide by agreed-upon rules.
- G. The right to receive appropriate care and treatment in the least intrusive manner. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to accept the care and treatment they require.
- H. The right to privacy, including both periods of privacy and places of privacy. Once again, the **RESPONSIBILITY** to recognize that complete privacy and independence is something we all compromise when living in a group setting based on our need for support.
- I. The right to communicate freely with persons of their choice in any reasonable manner they choose. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to recognize that verbal and physical aggression, unwarranted or unwanted sexual advances and constant pursuance are not reasonable.
- J. The right to ownership and use of personal possessions so as to maintain individuality and personal dignity. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to not hoard unnecessary amounts of property or taunt others with their ownership.
- K. The right to social interaction with members of either sex. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to make sure such interaction is acceptable to the other person.
- L. The right of access to opportunities that enable individuals to develop their full human potential. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to not thwart others' development in doing so.
- M. The right to pursue vocational opportunities that will promote and enhance economic independence. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to act in a socially acceptable manner while pursuing such opportunities and to recognize that saving, not random spending, is the way to enhance economic independence.
- N. The right to be treated equally as citizens under the law. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to abide by such laws and accept the consequences when they do not.
- O. The right to be free from emotional, psychological, and physical abuse. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to not subject others to such abuse.
- P. The right to participate in appropriate programs of education, training, social development, and habilitation and in programs of reasonable recreation. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to accept the societal standards to "appropriate" and "reasonable".

- Q. The right to participate in decisions that affect their lives. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to accept that some desires cannot be met based on the protection of health, safety ,and the rights of others.
- R. The right to select a parent or advocate to act on their behalf. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to select a reasonable advocate and listen to that person's suggestions.
- S. The right to manage their personal financial affairs, based on individual ability to do so. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to spend personal funds wisely.
- T. The right to confidential treatment of all information in their personal and medical records. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to recognize and agree to appropriate sharing of such records.
- U. The right to voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services without restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to recognize that some changes in policies and services are unacceptable based on health, safety, and the rights of others.
- V. The right to be free from unnecessary chemical or physical restraints. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to act in a manner that does not require suggestions for chemical or physical restraints.
- W. The right to participate in the political process. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to not force their views on others or violate the rights of others in doing so.
- X. The right to refuse to participate in medical, psychological, or other research or experiments. The **RESPONSIBILITY** to help others help them.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF RESIDENT CARE

1. The RESIDENT is not a routine concern...he is an individual requiring our attention and service.
2. The RESIDENT should not be considered an interruption to our work, but rather the purpose for it.
3. The RESIDENT is a person with emotions and feelings like our own.
4. The RESIDENT is not someone with whom we should argue or match wits.
5. The RESIDENT is deserving of professional treatment by all personnel who work together to maintain high standards of care.
6. The RESIDENT always deserves a positive, kind and helpful greeting.
7. The RESIDENT may not always be at his best and therefore requires special care and our personal understanding.
8. The RESIDENT should be able to recognize that we work as a team and take pride in our service.
9. The RESIDENT expects and deserves the very best we can give.
10. The RESIDENT is the most important person in our mission.