

Home and Community-Based Services Consumer Rights and Freedoms

As a person with an intellectual and/or developmental disability (IDD), and a person receiving services, I have the same basic legal, civil, and human rights and responsibilities as everyone else. My rights shall never be limited or restricted unnecessarily; without due process and the ability to challenge the decision, even if I have a guardian. All my rights should be honored through any assistance, support, and services I receive.

Some Examples of My Rights Include:

- Get paid competitive wages to work in an inclusive setting
- Contribute to my community
- Access services in the community the same way people who don't receive services do
- Full inclusion in community and cultural life
- Have access to education and information in a way I can understand
- Choose where I live based on what I can afford
- Choose who I live with
- Lock my doors and home, and choose those who may come in
- Access common places in my home
- Exercise tenant rights in accordance with state law
- Accessibility wherever I go
- Choose to be alone and my privacy respected
- Privacy and confidentiality
- Access to all my personal information (financial, medical, programmatic, behavioral, legal)
- Receive information in order to make informed decisions regarding my health care.
- Choose supports that I need and want
- Choose from all available service providers
- Independence
- Choose/develop my own schedule
- Go out at any time
- Develop my own person-centered plan of support
- Be treated with dignity and respect
- Control my money
- Be free from coercion, restraint, seclusion and retaliation
- Have visitors at my home at any time
- Choose when/what to eat, and have access to food at any time
- Choose my clothing
- Be part of a family or start one
- Live with my partner or get married
- Form loving relationships, either platonic or sexual, with whomever I choose
- Be free from abuse, neglect, exploitation
- Have access to advocacy supports and resources
- Participate in any discussion about restricting my right
- Vote
- Exercise religion or belief of my choice

Any restriction or modification to these rights:

- Must demonstrate informed consent by me.
- Must have an assurance that interventions and supports will cause no harm to me.
- Must be the result of a documented health and safety issue.
- Must be reflected in the person-centered plan.
- Must have documented less intrusive supports that were attempted prior to the modification/restriction.
- Will be communicated to me, in a way I can understand.
- Requires regular review to measure and assess effectiveness of restriction/modification.
- Requires a fade-out plan for the restriction/modification.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTS DIVISION

810 San Mateo, Suite 104 • P.O. Box 26110 • Santa Fe, New Mexico • 87505-6110
 (505) 476-8974 • FAX: (505) 476-8845 • www.nmhealth.org

