

You Have Rights

While you are receiving inpatient or residential services, your rights include but are not limited to the following list. Rights may be restricted if your actions would be harmful to you or others.

Client Rights, Chapter 290-4-9, Patient Rights 290-4-6

- Having your health and safety protected while in residential or inpatient services.
- Prompt and confidential services in the least restrictive environment available.
- Being treated with respect and dignity.
- Receiving treatment without regard to race, sex, or age.
- Taking part in planning your own treatment and knowing the benefits, risks, and/or side effects of all medications and treatment alternatives.
- Knowing the cost of your treatment and your responsibility for payment.
- Being free of restraints or seclusion, except as a last resort for safety.
- Being free of mental, physical, sexual or verbal abuse and free of neglect or exploitation.
- Pursuing employment, education and religious expression.
- Seeing or refusing to see visitors; making and receiving telephone calls.
- Receiving and sending mail except under certain conditions.
- Participating in social, religious, and community activities of your choice.
- Keeping or having access to your own money and personal effects, with limitations for safety, and wearing your own clothes.
- Accessing free interpretation services as needed.
- Consulting your own physician or attorney; filing a complaint.
- Being free from discrimination and retaliation due to any complaint or report made.
- Receiving a separate Notice of Privacy Practices about confidentiality of your protected health information.

You are encouraged to ask questions about your services and your rights. You may talk with anyone on the staff. _____.

You may ALSO talk to someone outside the agency by contacting:

Your DBHDD Regional Office at:

***Department of Community Health
Healthcare Facility Regulation
2 Peachtree St. NW, 31st Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
404/657-5726, 404/657-5728 or
1/800-878-6442***

***Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities
Office of External Affairs
2 Peachtree St. NW, 24nd Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
404/657-5964***

***Georgia Advocacy Office in Atlanta
150 E. Ponce de Leon Ave., Suite 430
Decatur, GA 30030
404/885-1234 or 1/800-537-2329 or
Fax 404/378-0031***

Email: DBHDDconstituentservices@dbhdd.ga.gov

***Governor's Office of Disability Services Ombudsman
270 Washington Street, 8th Floor, Suite 8087
Atlanta, GA 30334
404/656-4261 or 1/866-424-7577***