

## The Bill of Rights for People with Disabilities

- The right to be treated at all times with courtesy and respect and with full recognition of their dignity and individuality;
- The right to an appropriate, safe and sanitary living environment that complies with local, state and federal standards and recognizes the person's need for privacy and independence;
- The right to food adequate to meet accepted standards of nutrition;
- The right to practice the religion of their choice or to abstain from the practice of religion;
- The right of timely access to appropriate medical or dental treatment;
- 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 right to receive appropriate care and treatment in the least intrusive manner;
- The right to privacy including periods of privacy and places of privacy; reasonable manner they choose;
- The right to communicate freely with persons of their choice in any reasonable manner they choose;
- The right to ownership and use of personal possessions so as to maintain individuality and personal dignity;
- The right to social interaction with members of the opposite sex;
- The right to access opportunities that enable individuals to develop their fullest human potential;
- The right to pursue vocational opportunities that will promote and enhance economic independence;
- The right to be treated equally as citizens under the law;
- The right to be free from emotional, psychological, and physical abuse;
- The right to participate in appropriate programs of education, training, and social development and habilitation and in programs of reasonable recreation;
- The right to participate in decisions that affect their lives;
- The right to select a parent or advocate on their behalf;
- The right to manage their personal financials affairs, based on individual ability to do so;
- The right to confidential treatment of all information in their personal and medical files;
- The right to voice grievances and recommend changes in policies and services without restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal;
- The right to be free from unnecessary chemical or physical restraint;
- The right to participate in the political process;
- The right to refuse to participate in medical, psychological or other research or experiments.