



Bill of Rights Training

How to Help Individuals Understand Their Rights

Athens County Board of DD MUI Coordinator

740-541-9590

Rights

- ✓ **Human rights** are the idea that people should have rights just *because* they are human beings. These rights are seen as *universal*, which means they are meant for everyone, no matter what their race, religion, ethnicity, nationality, age, sex, political beliefs (or any other kinds of beliefs), intelligence, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
- ✓ **Rights** are due to a person by law, tradition or nature, which means we all have rights.

Why do Individuals with DD have rights written in law?

- ✓ History has shown that persons with developmental disabilities have not always been treated well by society and were not always afforded the same rights and protections.
- ✓ The Individuals we serve have not been given special rights, but rather these rights were written into law to ensure that people with DD are assured the means to exercise and enjoy the rights that we all do.

WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING AN INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHTS?

- ✓ As a provider, you have a responsibility to have a solid knowledge about these rights.
- ✓ As a provider you are in a position to help people exercise their rights, help them to advocate for their rights, and help them report rights code violations.
- ✓ Each provider shall make available to all persons receiving services and all employees and visitors a copy of the list of rights and the addresses and telephone numbers of the county board of DD in the county in which the provider provides services.

WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING AN INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHTS?

- ✓ The provider shall also be responsible for answering any questions and giving any explanations necessary to assist the Individual to understand the rights in this training. Instructions in these rights shall be documented,
- ✓ Ensure that Individuals being served have the right to confidential treatment of all information in their personal and medical records. Breaches in confidentiality include conversations with or regarding an Individual in a public area, where others could hear private information.
- ✓ Every provider of services to persons with DD shall establish policies and programs to ensure that all staff members are familiar with the rights listed in section 5123.62 of the Ohio Revised Code and observe those rights in their contacts with persons receiving services.

Rights for Persons with Developmental Disabilities

- ✓ There are 24 rights outlined in ORC 5123.62.
- ✓ The Rights of Persons with Developmental Disabilities were established in Ohio law in 1986 with the most recent update in 2000.
- ✓ Rights of people with developmental disabilities have been addressed through legislation at the national level since 1963.

1

- Be treated nicely at all times and as a person

2

- Have a clean safe place to live in and a place to be alone

3

- Have food that is good for you

4

- Be able to go, if you want, to any church, temple or mosque

5

- Be able to go to a doctor or dentist when you are sick

6

- Be able to have people help you with the way you walk, talk, do things with your hands, act or feel, if you need it

7

- Be able to have people help and teach you, if you want

8

- Be able to have time and a place to go to be by yourself

9

- Be able to call, write letters, or talk to anyone you want about anything you want

10

- Be able to have your own things and be able to use them

11

- Be able to have men and women as friends

12

- Be able to join in activities and do things that will help you grow to be the best person you can be

13

- Be able to work and make money

14

- Be treated like everyone else

15

- Not to be hit, yelled at, cursed at, or called names that hurt you

16

- Be able to learn new things, make friends, have activities to do, and go out in your community

17

- Be able to tell people what you want and be part of making places or decisions about your life

18

- Be able to ask someone you want to help you, let others know how you feel or what you want

19

- Be able to use your money to pay for things you need and want with help, if you need it

20

- Be able to say yes or no before people talk about what you do at work or home or look at your file

21

- Be able to complain or ask for changes if you don't like something without being afraid of getting into trouble

22

- Not be given medication that you don't need, or be help down if you are not hurting yourself or others

23

- To vote and learn about laws and your community

24

- To say yes or no to being part of a study or experiment