

## Clients' Rights

Missouri Department of Mental Health  
Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities

### YOU SHALL BE ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING WITHOUT LIMITATION:

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| To the extent that the facilities, equipment and personnel are available, to medical care and treatment in accordance with the highest standards accepted in medical practice; | To request and have a second opinion before hazardous treatment or irreversible surgery, except in emergencies;           |
| To have safe and clean housing;  | To have nourishing, well-balanced meals;  |
| To receive prompt evaluation and care, treatment, habilitation or rehabilitation;  | To not work unless part of your treatment, rehabilitation or habilitation;  |
| To be treated with respect;  | To be free from verbal or physical abuse;   |
| To be the subject of an experiment only with your consent or the consent of the person legally authorized to act for you;  | To have your records kept confidential;   |
| To have your private doctor examine you at your own expense;   | To correspond by sealed mail with officials of the Department of Mental Health, your lawyer or a court;                   |
| To be evaluated and cared for in the least restrictive environment;  | Unless otherwise stated by law, to have the same legal rights and responsibilities as any other citizen;                  |
| To refuse hazardous treatment or surgery unless ordered by a court;  | To receive an impartial review of alleged violations of the rights listed above and any also otherwise assured under law. |

### YOU ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS, WHICH MAY BE LIMITED\*:

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| To wear your own clothes and to keep and use your personal possessions; | To use a telephone both to make and receive confidential calls;                    |
| To keep and spend a reasonable amount of your own money;                | To exercise physically and be able to pursue outdoor recreation;                   |
| To receive visitors of your own choosing at reasonable times;           | To have access to current newspapers, magazines and radio and television programs. |
| To have access to your medical and service records;                     |  |

\*Any limitation placed on your rights shall be documented in your clinical record and must be approved by the head of the facility where you reside or day program which you attend for treatment or habilitation. If you have been admitted to such services. Your rights may be limited only when those rights are inconsistent with your therapeutic care, treatment, habilitation or rehabilitation.

This facility cannot deny admission or services to you because of your race, sex, creed, marital status, national origin, handicap or age.

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