



## **The Clearing, SPC Participant Rights**

### **Participant Rights include the following:**

1. Participants are fully informed, prior to or at time of admission and during stay of accommodations and services available and their related charges, including fixed and optional charges. The Participant has a right to examine and receive an explanation of his bill regardless of the source of payment. The Participant shall be informed in advance of any changes in the services available or costs for which they are billed.
2. To be fully informed of their medical condition by a physician unless medically contraindicated as documented by a physician in the Participant's medical record; to receive proper care and attention the staff of the Program; to refuse treatment and medication to the extent permitted by law and to be informed of the consequences of such action.
3. To be free from mental, verbal, or physical abuse of any kind. Corporal punishment of Participants is prohibited. Participants will not be allowed to harm/abuse other Participants.
4. To be free from chemical and physical restraints except as authorized by a physician for a specified and limited period of time as necessary to protect the Participant from injury to himself or others. To receive information regarding medications that may be prescribed for them in accordance with State requirements.
5. To be fully informed when it is necessary to be discharged or transferred from one accommodation to another facility and to be adequately prepared for such discharge or transfer. Reasons for discharge or transfer may include medical or psychological reasons, welfare of the Participant, behavior or incompatibility with this facility.
6. To receive education of continued health care requirements following discharge.

7. To receive reasonable attention to complaints and grievances when communicated to members of the staff and to be able to communicate directly with the Administrator, or designee and the Washington State Department of Health, if the Participant chooses; to communicate grievances, complaints, recommendations without fear of reprisal, discrimination, deprivation of any kind.
8. To receive considerate and respectful care at all times to the preservation of their dignity and individuality; to privacy where appropriate or desirable, e.g., personal care, treatments and examinations, personal property, counseling, visiting, etc.; to refuse to talk with program staff not directly involved in providing care.
9. To confidential treatment of all communications and records concerning their care except when the law requires otherwise.
10. To expect all discussions of their care to be discreet.
11. To maintain any social, religious and community inter-relationships at their discretion; to participate in activities; attend worship services, etc., of their choice or refrain from any.
12. To a reasonable response to their request for services. To have room changed upon reasonable request. If request must be denied, the Participant is due a full and understandable explanation.
13. To prompt notification of a Participant's family of significant changes in Participant's condition in accordance with the Participant's direction.
14. To protective privacy when necessary for personal safety.
15. To access to an interpreter if language or hearing is a barrier to understanding treatment or rights.
16. To refuse treatment to the extent permitted by law.
17. To be fully informed of their responsibilities concerning the observation of rules and regulations of the program in a language understandable by the Participant, e.g., tobacco products, visitors, radio, TV, telephone, noise, appropriate and proper garb, gifts of food and flowers, etc. The Participant's family shall also be fully informed of rules and regulations that apply to their conduct while in the program.
18. To refuse to see visitors.

19. To manage personal financial affairs or to be given an accounting of finances. Participants have the right to be free of financial or other types of exploitation.
20. To be free from neglect, psychological abuse including humiliating, threatening and exploiting actions.
21. To be considered legally competent unless there has been a court decision of incompetence.
22. To have all privileges of citizenship including the right to be represented by an attorney during civil commitment proceedings
23. To vote, make contract, make a will, hold and transfer property, marry, have a driver's license, and manage own affairs.
24. To be directly involved, along with others of their choosing, with the development of their Recovery Plans, de-briefings and on-going service delivery.
25. To wear one's own clothes, including religious or symbolic items.
26. To keep and use one's own personal possessions including toilet articles.
27. To be allowed to spend a reasonable sum of one's own money for expenses and small purchases.
28. To have access to individual storage space for one's private use.
29. To have visitors during the days and hours that visiting is allowed.
30. To have reasonable access to telephones, both to make and receive calls.
31. To have ready access to letter writing materials, including stamps.
32. To mail and receive unopened correspondence. However, the correspondence will be opened and inspected in the presence of staff, but not read by staff.
33. To see and receive the services of a Participant advocate.

**Under HIPAA, Participants have the legal right to:**

- Be given a written notice from a provider explaining how the provider will use and disclose their health information

- Access medical records. This means patients can see their records and obtain a copy of their records, with some limitations
- Amend their medical records
- Obtain an accounting of disclosures of their protected health information, with limited exceptions
- Request that certain information be restricted from uses or disclosures that would otherwise be permitted. The provider, however, does not have to agree to the patient's request
- Authorize the release of their information for purposes not related to treatment, payment or health care operations

Participants have the right to make a complaint free of the concern of retaliation by staff, peers or others. When Participants think that they have been denied any of the rights above without good reason, they are encouraged to follow the Participant Grievance Procedure.