

Patient Bill of Rights

When you receive the services of the **Child and Family Counseling Center**, your rights are guaranteed by state law. As a consumer of mental health services, you may not be denied the right:

- 1. to retain and exercise to the fullest extent possible all the constitutional, civil, and legal rights to which you are entitled to by law.
- 2. to have the right to refuse medication.
- 3. to be free from mechanical restraint and isolation.
- 4. to be free from corporal punishment.
- 5. to be treated with courtesy, consideration, and respect for your dignity and individuality.
- 6. to communicate without limitation, with your attorney, physician, or the courts.

You also have the following rights subject to limitations for the purposes of treatment:

- 1. a safe and sanitary environment.
- 2. to participate in the development of your treatment plan.
- 3. to receive prompt and adequate treatment.
- 4. to be informed of your condition and progress.
- 5. to have your treatment record and all information about you kept confidential, except when state law requires disclosure.
- 6. to privacy.
- 7. to privileged communication with those who evaluate and treat you; information you provide may be disclosed with the permission of your parent/legal guardian if you are less than 14 years of age.

- 8. to have every opportunity to meet with you clinician and other members of the treatment team.
- 9. to request access to your clinical record.
- 10. to supplement or request a modification of your clinical record.

Confidential information may be shared without your consent in life threatening situations by court order.

If you think your rights have been violated, you should first bring the issue to your clinician/therapist. The Program/Clinical Director is available to review, mediate, or refer your complaint as indicated.

In addition, the agencies listed below are available to discuss any violation of you rights.

- Middlesex Mental Health Board Mental Health and Children Services County Administrative Building John F. Kennedy Square, 5th Floor New Brunswick, NJ 08901 (732) 426-5562
 New Jersey State Division of Child Protection and Permanency Hotline at 1-877-652-2873
- New Jersey State Division of Mental Health Services: 222 South Warren St. PO Box 700 Trenton, NJ 08625 – 0700 1-800-382-6717
- New Jersey Protection and Advocacy, Inc. 210 South Broad St. Trenton, NJ 08608 (609) 922-7233 (609) 292-9742

You are requested to exhaust the internal grievance procedures with our Program/Clinical Director prior to availing yourself of the services of an outside advocate; however, this is not mandatory.