

ADULT CARE FACILITY RESIDENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

The rights of adult care facility (ACF) residents are protected under Ohio law.

Adult care facility residents have the right to:

1. a safe, healthy, clean, and decent living environment.
2. be treated at all times with courtesy, respect, and with full recognition of dignity and individuality.
3. practice a religion of choice or to abstain from the practice of religion.
4. manage personal financial affairs.
5. retain and use personal clothing.
6. ownership and reasonable use of personal property.
7. participate in activities within the facility and to use the common areas of the facility.
8. participate in or refrain from engaging in activities of the resident's own choosing within reason.
9. private and unrestricted communications, including:
 - a. receive, send, and mail sealed, unopened correspondence.
 - b. reasonable access to a telephone for private communications.
 - c. private visits at any reasonable hour.
10. initiate and maintain contact with the community and to participate in community group activities at own initiative or at the initiative of community groups.
11. state grievances to the owner or manager of the facility, any governmental agency, or any other person without reprisal.
12. visit the facility alone or with a sponsor prior to becoming a resident.
13. retain the services of any health or social services practitioner at the resident's own expense.
14. refuse medical treatment or services unless the resident is adjudicated incompetent by a court and the right to have a legal guardian make these decisions.
15. be free from abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
16. be free from physical restraints.
17. not to be deprived of any legal rights solely by reason of residence in a facility.
18. examine records maintained by the facility concerning the resident upon request.
19. confidential treatment of personal records and to approve or refuse release of these records, except upon transfer to another facility, hospital, or provider, and except as required by law, rule, or a third-party payment contract.

20. be informed in writing of the rates charged by the facility as well as any additional charges, and to receive thirty days notice in writing of any change in the rates and charges.
21. have any significant change in physical health or behavioral status reported to the resident's case manager and sponsor.
22. share a room with a spouse, if both are residents of the facility.

In addition, residents have the right to:

1. not to be locked out of the facility. If the facility is locked during any portion of the day, each resident should be provided with a key or a staff member should be immediately available on the premises to open the door.
2. not to be locked in the facility at any time for any reason. All lockable doors should be capable of being opened by residents from the inside without using a key.
3. not to be isolated or to have food or other services withheld for punishment, incentive, convenience, or due to the ACF manager or staff member exceeding instructions contained in a mental health plan for care.
4. receive a written thirty (30) day notice of a proposed discharge or transfer and the right to appeal the discharge.

Each ACF is required to have a written residents' rights policy and post a copy of the rights within the facility. At the time of admission, the manager is required to provide a copy of the residents' rights policy to the resident and the resident's sponsor, if any, and explain the contents. In addition, a sponsor has the right to advocate on the behalf of the resident.

Long Term Care Ombudsman
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Email: concerns@ltco.org

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