



Client Rights

Each client receiving services at West Bergen shall have:

- The right to be informed of these rights, as evidenced by the client's written acknowledgement or by the documentation by staff in the clinical record that the client was offered a written copy of these rights and given a written or verbal explanation of these rights in terms the client could understand;
- The right to be notified of any rules and policies the program has established governing client conduct in the facility;
- The right to be informed of services available in the program, the names and professional status of the staff providing and/or responsible for the client's care, and fees related charges, including the payment, fee, deposit and refund policy of the program and any charges for services not covered by sources of third-party payment or the programs basic rate;
- The right to be informed if the program has authorized other health care and educational institutions to participate in his or her treatment, the identity and function of these institutions, and to refuse to allow their participation in his or her treatment;
- The right to receive from his or her physicians or clinical practitioners an explanation of his or her complete medical/health condition or diagnosis, recommended treatment, treatment options, including the option of no treatment, risks of treatment and expected results in terms that he or she understands;
- The right to participate in the planning of his or her care and treatment, and to refuse treatment;
- The right to participate in experimental research only when the client gives informed written consent to such participation, or when a guardian or legally authorized representative gives such consent for an incompetent client in accordance with law, rule and regulation;
- The right to voice grievances or recommend changes in policies and services to program staff, the governing authority and/or outside representatives of his or her choice either individually or as a group free from restraint, interference, coercion , discrimination or reprisal;
- The right to be free from mental and physical abuse, exploitation;
- The right to confidential treatment of information about the client;
- The right to be treated with courtesy, consideration, respect and with recognition of his or her individuality and right to privacy, including but not limited to auditory and visual privacy;
- The right to exercise civil and religious liberties including the right to independent personal decisions;
- The right to not be discriminated against because of age, race, religion, sex, nationality, sexual orientation, disability (including but not limited to blind, deaf, hard of hearing) or ability to pay; or to be derived of any constitutional, civil, and/or legal rights;
- The right to be transferred or discharged only for medical reasons, for the client's welfare, that of other clients or staff upon the written order of a physician or other licensed clinician, or failure to pay required fees as agreed at the time of admission (except as prohibited by sources of third party payment);
- The right to be notified in writing and to have the opportunity to appeal, an involuntary discharge;
- The right to have access to and obtain a copy of his or her clinical record, in accordance with the programs policies and procedure and applicable Federal and State Laws and Rules.

Additionally in the State of New Jersey, through the Department of Human Services, clients are entitled to the following rights:

1. The right to be free from unnecessary or excessive medication (see N.J.A.C. 10:37-6.54)
2. The right to not be subjected to non-standard treatment or procedures, experimental procedures or research, or provide demonstration programs, without written informed consent. i. If the client has been adjudicated incompetent, authorization for such procedures may be obtained only pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 30:4-24.2(d)2.
3. The right to treatment in the least restrictive setting, free from physical restraints and isolation.
4. The right to be free from corporal punishment.
5. The right to privacy and dignity.
6. The right to the least restrictive conditions necessary to achieve the goals of treatment/services.