

Your Rights in a Group Home Operated by MCH

MCH is committed to protecting the rights of those served. All persons served are assured of the rights to dignity, privacy, and humane care. In keeping with this philosophy, MCH adheres to the Client Rights in Community Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services 10A NORTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 27C, 27D, 27E, 27F (APSM July, 2003) which comply with G.S. 122C, article 3, Client's Rights. MCH assists persons served in becoming more independent in daily living skills, allows their basic human rights, and helps protect these rights.

Each person served shall at all times have the right to:

- Receive medical treatment.
- Have an individualized written discharge plan which makes recommendations for further services designed to allow you to live in the community as normally as possible.
- Send and receive sealed mail, have access to paper, postage, and assistance as needed with your mail.
- Consult with a private lawyer, doctor or mental health professional at your own expense.
- Consult with parents or guardians or legal custodian.
- Consult with an advocate.
- Have opportunities to mature physically, emotionally, intellectually, socially, and vocationally.
- Have appropriate structure and control.

- Receive treatment separate from adults if under 18 unless permission is granted by the state.
- Make and receive confidential phone calls at your own expense.
- Receive visitors.
- Receive either educational or vocational training.
- Communicate and meet with anyone of your choosing under appropriate supervision.
- Visit outside the facility.
- Be outside daily and able to exercise several times a week.
- Keep and use personal possessions.
- Participate in religious worship.
- Keep and spend a reasonable amount of your own money.
- Keep a driver's license.
- Live in an unlocked environment.
- Be free from mistreatment, abuse, neglect, exploitation including financial, humiliation, retaliation, harassment, or intimidation

Protecting your rights, dignity, and treatment with respect, and ensuring your ability to exercise your rights is important to MCH staff.

All MCH staff are trained to advocate for and help you understand your rights. You may also contact any of the professional staff at **524 - 5888** if you have a question or feel that your rights have been violated.

Jeannie Garrett, Executive Director, and **Christi Huff**, Program Director, are also available to help you understand and protect your rights. You may contact them at **524 - 5888** if you have concerns about your rights. You may email mch@maconcitizens.org.

YOUR RIGHTS AS A PERSON RECEIVING SERVICES



SUMMARY OF THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 122C OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF THE STATE OF NC

MCH MISSION STATEMENT

Macon Citizens Abilities advocates for and protects the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

MCH provides comprehensive residential and day services.

Your Rights in a Group Home and Day Program

This pamphlet explains your rights and tells you what to do if you have questions or problems concerning your rights.

- You have the right to dignity, privacy, humane care, and freedom from physical punishment, abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- You have the right to live as normally as possible while in MCH services.
- You have the right to receive care, services, and treatment based on a person-centered plan written just for you. Your plan must be implemented within 30 days of your admission, and it will help you become more independent. You or your legally-responsible person will be informed of the benefits and any risks involved in the services you receive.
- You have the right to be free from unnecessary or excessive medication of any kind. You have the right not to have medication used as punishment, for discipline, or for the convenience of staff.
- You cannot be treated with electroshock therapy, experimental drugs or procedures, or have surgery, unless it is emergency surgery, without your written permission.
- You have the right to refuse treatment. The only time you can be treated without your consent is (1) in an emergency or (2) if your treatment has been ordered by the court and more than 1 professional agrees that you need this treatment in order to improve or prevent harm.

- Physical restraints or seclusion may not be used unless necessary to prevent danger, or if we determine, based on very strict rules, that it is necessary for your care. In such cases, your legally responsible person and the Human Rights Committee must agree to the treatment.
- The fact that you are receiving services or any other information about your care is confidential.
- You have the right to see the information in your own record unless more than one professional determines that it would be harmful for you to see it.
- In general, under state and federal laws, no one can share information with another about the services you receive without your permission. These same laws, however, may require us to share information with others under some very specific conditions.
- The fact that you are receiving services does not take away from your basic civil rights. These rights can be limited only if you have been declared incompetent by a court of law.
- You still have the right to buy or sell property, to sign a contract, to register and vote, to sue others who have wronged you, and to marry, or get a divorce *unless* you have been declared incompetent.
- You have the right to receive fair wages for any work you do. You are not paid for simulated work which is a part of training to learn jobs skills.

If you think you have been denied your rights, you may contact --

- a family member or friend
- a client advocate or attorney
- the Human Rights Committee.

You may also file a grievance with MCH.

If at any time or for any reason you feel that you cannot get the information or help you need from MCH staff, you may get help with your rights from:

NC Disability Rights
1- 877- 235 - 4210
1 - 919- 856 - 2195
www.disabilityrightsn.org

- **Complaint Hotline:** 1-800-624-3004 (within NC) or 919-855-4500

**Macon Citizens
Habilities, Inc.**
PO Box 698
Franklin, NC 28744

Website: maconcitizens.org
Email: mch@maconcitizens.org

Macon Group Home
Iotla Street Group Home
Smoky Group Home
Webster Group Home
Harrison Avenue Group Home
Yonce House
Macon Citizens Enterprises
Alternative Family Living



MCH