



(330) 725-9195

### **CLIENT RIGHTS**

In conformance with Rule 5122:26-18 of the Administrative Code and CARF Standards, Alternative Paths acknowledges that each client has all of the following rights:

1. The right to be informed of the rights described in this rule prior to consent to proceed with services, and the right to request a written copy of these rights;
2. The right to receive information in language and terms appropriate for the person's understanding,
3. The right to be fully informed of the cost of services,
4. The right to be treated with consideration, respect for personal dignity, autonomy, and privacy, and within the parameters of relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Administrative Code;
5. The right to receive humane services;
6. The right to participate in any appropriate and available service that is consistent with an individual service plan (ISP), regardless of the refusal of any other service, unless that service is a necessity for clear treatment reasons and requires the person's participation;
7. The right to reasonable assistance, in the least restrictive setting;
8. The right to reasonable protection from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, inhumane treatment, assault, or battery by any other person.
9. The right to a current ISP that addresses the needs and responsibilities of an individual that specifies the provision of appropriate and adequate services, as available, either directly or by referral;
10. The right to actively participate in periodic ISP reviews with the staff including services necessary upon discharge.
11. The right to give full informed consent to any service including medication prior to commencement and the right to decline services including medication absent an emergency;
12. The right to be advised of and refuse observation by techniques such as one-way vision mirrors, tape recorders, televisions, movies, or photographs, or other audio and visual technology. This right does not prohibit an agency from using closed-circuit monitoring to observe seclusion rooms or common areas, which does not include bathrooms;
13. The right to decline any hazardous procedures.
14. The right to be free from restraint or seclusion unless there is imminent risk of physical harm to self or others.
15. The right to reasonable privacy and freedom from excessive intrusion by visitors, guests and non agency surveyors, contractors, construction crews or others.
16. The right to confidentiality unless a release or exchange of information is authorized and the right to request to restrict treatment information being shared;
17. The right to be informed of the circumstances under which an agency is authorized or intends to release, or has released, confidential information without written consent for the purposes of continuity of care as permitted by the Revised Code.
18. The right to have the grievance procedure explained orally and in writing, the right to file a grievance, with assistance if requested; and the right to have a grievance reviewed through a grievance process, including the right to appeal a decision.
19. The right to receive services and participate in activities free of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, age, color, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, physical or mental handicap, developmental disability, genetic information, human immunodeficiency virus status, or in any manner prohibited by local, state or federal laws.
20. The right to exercise rights without reprisal in any form including the ability to continue services with uncompromised access. No right extends so far as to supersede health and safety considerations.
21. The right to have the opportunity to consult with independent specialists or legal counsel, at one's own expense.
22. The right to avoid conflicts of interest: No agency employee may be a person's guardian or representative if the person is currently receiving services from said facility.

23. The right to have access to one's own psychiatric, medical or other treatment records, unless access to particular identified items of information is specifically restricted for that individual client for clear treatment reasons in the client's treatment plan. If access is restricted, the treatment plan shall also include a goal to remove the restriction.
24. The right to be informed in advance of the reason (s) for discontinuance of service provision, and to be involved in planning for the consequences of that event.
25. The right to receive an explanation of the reasons for denial of service.

In accordance with ODADAS regulations, the following client rights will be ensured for all participants in chemical dependency programming. All participants will receive a copy of the list of rights as stated below.

1. The right to be treated with consideration and respect for personal dignity, autonomy and privacy,
2. The right to receive services in the least restrictive, feasible environment,
3. The right to be informed of one's own condition,
4. The right to be informed of available program services,
5. The right to give consent or refuse any service, treatment, or therapy,
6. The right to participate in the development, review and revision of one's own individualized treatment plan and receive a copy of it,
7. The right or freedom from unnecessary or excessive medication, unnecessary physical restraint or seclusion,
8. The right to be informed and the right to refuse any unusual or hazardous treatment procedures,
9. The right to be advised and the right to refuse observation by others and by techniques such as one-way mirrors, tape recorders, television, movies, or photographs,
10. The right to consult with an independent treatment specialist or legal counsel at one's own expense,
11. The right to confidentiality of communications and personal identifying information within the limitations and requirements for disclosure of client information under state and federal laws and regulations,
12. The right to have access to one's own client record in accordance with program procedures,
13. The right to be informed of the reason(s) for terminating participation in a program,
14. The right to be informed of the reasons(s) for denial of a service,
15. The right not to be discriminated against for receiving services on the basis of race, ethnicity, age, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or HIV infection whether asymptomatic or symptomatic, or AIDS,
16. The right to know the cost of services,
17. The right to be informed of all client rights,
18. The right to exercise one's own rights without reprisal,
19. The right to file a grievance in accordance with program procedures,
20. The right to have oral and written instructions concerning the procedure for filing a grievance.

Alternative Paths has designated a Client Rights Officer (CRO) who has the responsibility of ensuring that the above client rights are safeguarded. In the case of violation of client rights, whether real or perceived, the CRO will assist the client, or other person or agency on behalf of the client in filing a grievance provided by the Alternative Paths, Inc., Grievance Procedure.

A copy of the Grievance Procedure and a form to file a grievance can be obtained at the receptionist's desk.

The CRO is Carla Smith, who can be reached from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 246 Northland Drive, Medina, Ohio 44256, or by calling (330) 725-9195.

The agency staff will attend on an annual basis either an in-service or an ODMH authorized workshop to receive training on the Client Rights and Grievance Procedure Rule. Alternative Paths staff will explain any and all aspects of client rights and the grievance procedure upon request.