



(330) 725-9195

### **CLIENT RIGHTS**

In conformance with Rule 5122:2-1-02 of the Administrative Code and section 1.K of CARF, Alternative Paths acknowledges that each client has all of the following rights:

1. The right to be treated with consideration and respect for personal dignity, autonomy, and privacy.
2. The right to be free from abuse and financial or other exploitation, retaliation, humiliation and neglect.
3. The right to service in a humane setting that is the least restrictive feasible as defined in the treatment plan.
4. The right to be informed of one's own condition, of proposed or current services, treatments or therapies, and of the alternatives.
5. The right to consent to or refuse any service, treatment, or therapy upon full explanation of the expected consequences of such consent or refusal. A parent or legal guardian may consent to or refuse any service, treatment, or therapy on behalf of a minor client.
6. The right to participate in the development of a written, individualized service plan that addresses one's own mental health, physical health, social and economic needs, and that specifies the provision of appropriate and adequate services, as available, either directly or by referral.
7. The right to active and informed participation in the establishment, periodic review, and reassessment of the service plan.
8. The right to freedom from unnecessary or excessive medication.
9. The right to freedom from unnecessary restraint or seclusion.
10. The right to participate in any appropriate and available agency service, regardless of refusal of one or more other services, treatments, or therapies, or regardless of relapse from earlier treatment in that or another service, unless there is a valid and specific necessity which precludes and/or requires the client's participation in other services. This necessity shall be explained to the client and written in the client's current service plan.
11. The right to informed consent or refusal or expression regarding service delivery, releases of information, concurrent service and composition of the service delivery team.
12. The right to have access and participate in self-help and advocacy support services.
13. The right to be informed of and refuse any unusual or hazardous treatment procedures and/or participate in clinical research projects.
14. The right to be advised of and refuse observation by techniques such as one-way mirrors, tape recorders, televisions, movies, or photographs.

15. The right to have the opportunity to consult with independent treatment specialists or legal counsel, at one's own expense.
16. The right to confidentiality of communications and of all personally identifying information within the limitations and requirements for disclosure of various funding and/or certifying sources, and state or federal statutes, unless release of information is specifically authorized by the client or parent or legal guardian of a minor client or court appointed guardian of the person of an adult client in accordance with rule 5122:2-3-11 of the Administrative Code, state and federal statute.
17. 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, by statute, or by agency policy. Any person authorized by the client has unrestricted access to all information the client has a right to. Clients shall be informed in writing of agency policies and procedures for viewing or obtaining copies of personal records. (refer to Medical Records Policy)
18. Under federal and state rule an individual has the right to amend their protected health information for as long as the record is maintained; excluding statutory exemptions. (refer to Medical Records Policy)
19. 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.
20. The right to receive an explanation of the reasons for denial of service.
21. The right not to be discriminated against in the provision of service on the basis of race, ethnicity, age, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual or affectional orientation, disability, economic circumstance, HIV infection, AIDS-related complex, veteran status, military status, or handicap status. .
22. The right to know the cost of services.
23. The right to be fully informed of all rights.
24. The right to exercise these rights without reprisal of continued uncompromised access to service.
25. The right to file a grievance.
26. Clients infected with the HIV (human immune deficiency virus) have the right to be treated according to the state law and the Ohio Department of Health's guidelines.

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 Cliff Zaleski, 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 inservice 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.