



<b>SECTION:</b>  Ethical Practices, Rights & Responsibilities	<b>SUBJECT:</b>  Rights	<b>REF: SS-1.00</b>  <b>DATE: April 1, 2008</b> <b>REVISED: March 2014,</b> <b>August 2018, August 2019</b> <b>REVIEWED: August 2017,</b> <b>Sept 2020, August 2021</b>
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## Policy

WDDS provides supports and services to people who have a developmental disability and therefore are vulnerable. The agency is responsible for ensuring that people receiving support are aware of their rights and responsibilities and that their rights are upheld. The people receiving support must be aware of the process available to them if they believe that their rights have been violated (reference Support Services 1-1.03).

People are supported to understand and exercise their rights, with the support of advocates if needed.

WDDS conducts an orientation to its mission statement, service principles and statement of rights with person receiving services and supports and any person acting on their behalf when they begin to receive services and supports. An annual review will occur thereafter. This will be documented in the person's documentation due in AIMS.

**April 1, 2008**

**Bill of Rights**

We have the right to self-advocate.

We have the right to dream.

We have the right to make our own decisions.

We have the right to say “no.”

We have the right to be safe.

We have the right to have relationships.

We have the right to privacy

We have the right to be supported with respect.

We have the right to learn and grow.

We have the right to take risks.

We have the right to be part of the community.

We have the right to be proud of who we are.

Developed by SOAR Group – January to March 2008.

Presented to and adopted by Board of Directors – April 2008.

Presented to All Staff – April 2008

### **Right to Self-Advocate**

- The Right to speak up- have a voice
- The Right to share ideas, opinions, concerns and feelings.
- The Right to be heard, understood and receive attention.
- The Right to Communicate.

### **The Right to dream:**

- ◆ The Right to visit places and see new things.
- ◆ Right to learn new things.
- ◆ The Right to take risks-try new things.
- ◆ Right to live alone.

### **Right to make Choices:**

- ◆ The Right to Communicate my Choices.
- ◆ The Right to wear what I like, choose my own clothing and shop where I like to shop.
- ◆ The Right to go where I would like to go.
- ◆ The Right to choose where I live.
- ◆ The Right to choose when I eat and what I eat.
- ◆ The Right to spend my money the way I want as long as I work within my budget.
- ◆ The Right to be responsible for my choices.

### **The Right to say No:**

- ◆ Listen to what I have to say, allow to say no in a responsible way.

### **The Right to be safe:**

- ◆ The Right to be safe from abuse.
- ◆ The Right to live in a place that is safe.
- ◆ The Right to learn how to be safe.

### **The Right to relationships:**

- ◆ The Right to have people to communicate with.
- ◆ The Right to choose my friends.
- ◆ The Right to decide when we spend time with friends.
- ◆ The Right to set time to be with friends.
- ◆ The Right to boyfriends/girlfriends of our choice.
- ◆ The right to get married.

### **The Right to Privacy:**

- ◆ The Right to private phone conversations
- ◆ The Right to privacy in my bedroom: knock and ask permission before entering.
- ◆ The Right to private use of the washroom.
- ◆ The Right to privacy of my mail.
- ◆ The Right to privacy for my personal belongings.
- ◆ The Right for care and maintenance of my personal property.

### **The Right to be treated with Respect:**

- ◆ The Right to be spoken to directly, not spoken for or talked about.
- ◆ The Right to time and opportunity to communicate.

- ◆ The Right to be supported to communicate.
- ◆ The Right to be heard.
- ◆ The Right to not be interrupted.
- ◆ The Right to speak my mind.
- ◆ The Right to be treated the way you would like to be treated.
- ◆ The Right to be in control of my life.
- ◆ The Right to my money.

#### **The Right to Learn and Grow:**

- ◆ The Right to communicate tools and strategies.
- ◆ The Right to be given opportunity to learn and grow.
- ◆ The Right to learn new skills: bus, banking, cooking.
- ◆ The Right to Learn to become Independent.
- ◆ The Right to be encouraged.

#### **The Right to Take Risks:**

- ◆ The Right take risks: Learn and Grow.
- ◆ The Right to make mistakes and learn from those mistakes.
- ◆ The Right to be treated as an adult.
- ◆ The Right to step outside my comfort zone.

#### **The Right to be part of the community:**

- ◆ Right to work.
- ◆ Right to volunteer.
- ◆ Right to be involved in sports.
- ◆ Right to be involved in the community social i.e. Southgate.
- ◆ Right to be involved in community events: Parades, Dragon Boat Races, Sidewalk Days, Dances
- ◆ Right to walk and take the city bus.
- ◆ Be on my own.

#### **Right to be proud of who we are:**

- ◆ See my ability not my disability.
- ◆ Let me be who I am not what you think I should be.

**Reference: [WDDS Website/Services/Rights/SOAR](#)**