

Client Rights

It is important for you to know you have many rights and responsibilities when you enter into counseling. The following list outlines them.

You Have a Right...

- To considerate and respectful care which includes freedom from any physical, sexual, fiduciary (financial), or psychological abuse including humiliating, threatening, and exploiting actions;
- To understand what your problem is, what treatment is recommended and why, who will give the treatment, and what outcome to expect;
- To be involved in a process of informed choice, informed refusal, and/or expression of choice related to preference of your treatment services, choice of service provider and participation in research projects;
- To expect that all communications and records pertaining to your care will be treated as confidential;
- To have continuity of care when you are referred for services outside this agency;
- To examine and receive an explanation of your bill.
- To participate in all aspects of your treatment, including development of your treatment plan.
- To have access to self-help and advocacy support services.
- To voice complaints or lodge an appeal without recrimination.
- To all legal protection and due process for status as an outpatient and inpatient, both voluntary and involuntary, as defined under Vermont law.

Your Responsibilities Are...

- To be honest in your presentation of your problems and to tell those working with you how you feel about what is happening to you.
- To be actively involved in the development of your treatment plan that will outline your problems, needs, goals, and expected outcome;
- To be considerate of others and their privacy;
- To present to your counselor any questions, complaints or concerns about your counseling plans or goals so that you may reach an agreement on any problem hindering your progress.

Signature_____ Date_____