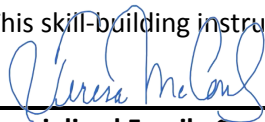


**SPECIALIZED FAMILY CARE
Provider Training**

Category:	Advocacy
Title:	Person in Placement, Bill of Rights
Materials:	<i>Articles: Ethics for Specialized Family Care Providers</i>
Goal:	Provider practices good ethics in the care of individuals with developmental disabilities
Credit Hours:	2 Hours
Date Developed:	February 2014
Developed by:	Donna McCune, SFC Program, Updated February 2017 by Carol Brewster

This skill-building instruction has been approved for Specialized Family Care Provider training by:

 _____ 2/27/2017
Specialized Family Care Program Manager **Date**

 _____ 02-23-2017
Content Reviewed by: Carol Brewster, FBCS **Date**

Training Objectives:

- Specialized Family Care Provider can define ethics
- Specialized Family Care Provider knows the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities
- Specialized Family Care Provider can recognize situations in which the rights of an individual with developmental disabilities are not being honored.

Training Procedures

- Specialized Family Care Provider initiated self-study
- Test completed by Specialized Family Care Provider
- Review of test responses by Family Based Care Specialist and Specialized Family Care Provider

I certify that I have completed all the materials associated with this training module. I feel that I have a basic understanding of the material completed.

Specialized Family Care Provider **Start Time** **End Time** **Date**

Reviewed by: _____ **Date**
Family Based Care Specialist

This Program is funded by the WV Department of Health & Human Resources, Bureau for Children & Families and administered by the Center for Excellence in Disabilities, West Virginia University.

ETHICS FOR SPECIALIZED FAMILY CARE PROVIDERS

Many safeguards are in place to protect the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities. Good ethics have been the foundation upon which safeguards have been established. Webster Dictionary defines ethics as rules of behavior based on ideas about what is morally good and bad and a belief that something is very important. Rules of behavior for protecting individuals with developmental disabilities are described for us through various documents which explain the laws, bill of rights, etc. for children and adults with disabilities.

Public Law 106-402, “The Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000” (AIDD) outlined standards which Federal and State programs have to make sure that public funds are provided only to programs in which individuals with developmental disabilities have certain rights protected.¹ Expectations for Specialized Family Care/Personal Care Providers have been built around this law. The expectations protect the health, safety, well-being and dignity of individuals with developmental disabilities.

A Specialized Family Care Home is a place where an individual can grow and develop to his/her maximum potential mentally, physically, emotionally and socially in a family atmosphere. As such, SFC Providers and Family Based Specialists ensure that rights are protected. Some of the ways in which this is done follows:

The Individual Has a Right to Care that is Free of Abuse, Neglect, Sexual and Financial Exploitation

Providers are trained to know about neglect and abuse and will ensure that the individual in care is kept free from harm. This includes no use of unnecessary physical restraint, isolation, or excessive medication.

The Individual Has a Right to Live With a Provider Who Can Meet His or Her Needs

The home in which an individual resides will be one in which the Provider is trained and competent to meet his/her needs. The home must be one where the individual is welcomed as a family member, treated appropriately and as a person at all times. The Provider must be able to meet the individual's needs of mobility, personal hygiene, bathing, dressing, eating and skills required for community living (Activities of Daily Living).

The Individual Has a Right to Live in a Home That Is Clean and Safe

The home will always be kept in good repair at all times and in compliance with SFC Program standards. The standards for safety will be followed with a continual awareness of risks to safety.

The Individual Has a Right to Proper Food and Nutrition

Providers must ensure that good nutritional standards are maintained. Any special prescribed diets must be followed. The individual in care must be included in family meal times. Food cannot be withheld as punishment.

The Individual Has a Right to Proper Medical Care and Treatment

Providers must maintain regularly scheduled medical appointments for the individual in care and promptly schedule other medical appointments as needed. Providers must ensure that other needed health needs are met, such dental, eye, physical therapy, etc.

The Individual Has a Right to Privacy

The individual in the home has a right to have space where he/she can go to be alone. The individual has the right to privacy for personal care such as dressing, bathing, and toileting. The individual has a right to have access to individual storage space for his/her private use. The individual has the right to privacy about his/her personal circumstances. Personal information about the individual does not need to be discussed with others who have no reason to know the information.

The Individual Has a Right to Religious Freedom and Practice

The individual in care should be allowed to accompany other family members to religious services or, if indicated, have opportunity to attend a church, temple, or mosque of his/her choice.

The Individual Has a Right to Social Interaction and Participation in Community Activities

The individual in care has a right to have visitors, both male and female. Provision should be made for visits with close relatives, as approved by guardian. The individual in care has the right to community outings and

recreational activities. Participation in the community includes the right to educational services.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities has developed a “Bill of Rights for People with Developmental Disabilities.” The listing, easily understandable, is as follows:

- Be treated nicely at all times
- Have a clean safe place to live in and a place to be alone
- Have food that is good for you
- Be able to go, if you want to, to any church, temple, mosque
- Be able to go to a doctor or dentist when you are sick
- Be able to have people help you with the way you walk, talk, do things with your hands, act or feel, if you need it
- Be able to have people help and teach you, if you want
- Be able to call, write letters or talk to anyone you want about anything you want
- Be able to have your own things and be able to use them
- Be able to have men and women as friends
- Be able to join in activities and do things that will help you grow to be the best person you can be
- Be treated like everyone else
- Not be hit, yelled at, cursed at, or called names that hurt you
- Be able to learn new things, make friends, have activities to do, and go out in your community
- Be able to tell people what you want and be part of making plans or decisions about your life

- Be able to ask someone you want to help you. Let others know how you feel or what you want
- Be able to use your money to pay for things you need and want with help
- Be able to say yes or no before people talk about what you do at work or home or look in your file
- Be able to complain or ask for changes if you don't like something without being afraid of getting in trouble
- Not be given medicine that you don't need, or be held down if you are not hurting yourself or others
- To vote and learn about laws and your community
- To say yes or no to being part of a study or experimentⁱⁱ

Not all individuals in care are able to communicate their wants and, as such, providers need to be their voice based upon standards which are in the best interest of him/her. Good ethical standards can be based on the Golden Rule which says "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Imagining oneself as the individual needing care and your preferred treatment is often a measure of good ethics.

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Specialized Family Care Program
WVU-Center for Excellence in Disabilities

ⁱ US Dept. of Health & Human Services, Administration for Community Living, Administration on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (AIDD). The Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000, Public Law 106-402.

ⁱⁱ Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities <http://dodd.ohio.gov/BillofRights>