

BILL OF RIGHTS

For Residents of
Nursing Homes

Residents of nursing homes shall not be deprived of any rights, benefits, or privileges guaranteed by law, the Constitution of the State of Florida, or the Constitution of the United States. (Section 400.022, Florida Statutes)

RESIDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Be treated courteously, fairly, and with the fullest measure of dignity;
 - Freely send and receive mail, have access to a telephone, and receive visitors during visiting hours;
 - Use personal clothing and possessions as space permits;
 - Participate in social, religious, and community activities;
 - Organize and participate in resident and family councils;
 - Manage your own financial affairs and be informed of the cost of services;
 - Receive adequate and appropriate health care;
 - Choose your own physician and pharmacy;
 - Be informed of your medical condition and treatment;
 - Make an informed decision to refuse treatment;
 - Privacy in receiving treatment and caring for personal needs;
 - Freedom from abuse, corporal punishment, and extended involuntary seclusion;
 - Freedom from physical and chemical restraints, except those ordered by a physician;
 - Present grievances and recommend changes in policies and services without fear of retaliation;
 - Have access to ombudsmen and advocates; and
 - Receive a written notice 30 days prior to relocation or termination of residency, and an opportunity to challenge such a notice.
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FLORIDA
OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

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