# CLIENT RIGHTS IN FOSTER CARE

## KIDS IN CARE RIGHTS AND LIMITATIONS

With every new client, the family and staff must review with them their rights, limitations, and privileges

 See the full policy at: <a href="http://www.newleafalternative.com/pdfs/client%20rights.pdf">http://www.newleafalternative.com/pdfs/client%20rights.pdf</a>

### RIGHT TO CONFIDENTIALITY

- Any information gathered on your client is used strictly for intake and therapeutic reasons.
- Information is placed in secured files and access to these files is restricted to those providing direct care.
- Information given and gathered in team meetings are confidential and not to be discussed outside of those providing direct care
- Discussing your client within your friends, family, and acquaintances is prohibited.

# TERMINATION, ABUSE, GRIEVANCE, DISCRIMINATION, SMOKE

- Clients have the <u>right to ask for termination</u> of placement and agency services. These rights, although not always granted as per the best interest of the clients, are to be respected and acknowledged.
- Clients have a <u>right to an abuse free home</u> and environment. This includes physical, emotional, corporal, etc. (see provider code of conduct as a reference)
- Clients have the <u>right to discrimination free</u> (whether based on sex, race, national origin, or sexual preference).
- The <u>rights of smokers and non-smokers</u> are as outlined in the Utah Clean Air Act, Division of Youth. Corrections/Child and Family Services Policy; whichever has ascendancy.
  - Any underage smoker will be turned into the police by foster homes or appropriate staff. Foster/Proctor homes have the right to ban smoking from their property as a part of house rules, and enforced via the program.



## RIGHTS IN THE HOME



- PROCTOR PLACEMENT
- Within the proctor (or residential) placement, the client is guaranteed basic necessities such as room and
- board, air, safety, and environmental safety in compliance with the DHS R501, R501-12 statues. House
- Rules and chores designated by the Proctor and/or coordinating team members, such as case management,
- new leaf accompanying staff, etc., are part of the living conditions.
- In-house privileges (phone, TV, etc.) shall be awarded based on client conduct and Proctor permission.
- 1. In-house privileges are clarified accordingly
  - **Q.** In house privileges are defined as anything above and beyond the basic needs and requirements of the home in compliance with the DHS R-501, R501-12 foster rules.

Privileges are recognized and given in accordance to the basic house rules (compliant

- with provider code of conduct) dictated by each individual foster home and also in
- accordance to the privileges that are available in each individual foster home. These can
- include but not limited to television, video gaming consoles, travel privileges, recreation
- center memberships, community time, etc.
  - b. The youth in the home is expected to comply with the home rules, safety plans, team dictations,
- and statues involved with those whom work with the youth. When/ if the youth is out of
- compliance with the rules that are given, it is the right of the foster parent to subtract privileged
- time of usage, total usage, days of usage, house chores (in accordance with the Provider Code of
- Conduct) additionally, and subtraction of time allowed for individual use in the community (aka
- house arrest or grounding) according to the severity of the offence.
  - C. New Leaf remains (rules, privileges etc) in compliance with NLA/DHS contract and DHS statues
- regarding phone accommodations, family visitations, and court orders accordingly.



- A client has the right to communicate with family members, attorney, physician, clergyman, and others except where contact is clearly denied by Court Order or counter to the therapeutic environment.
- Approved contacts can be via telephone. According to DHS Contract Section D Home Visits and Phone calls part b.



Phone Calls: Youth shall be allowed a minimum of one weekly 15 minute phone call to family (or as dictated by court and team) at no cost to the youth and/or parent.

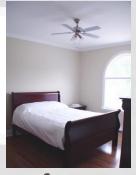


Any visitation must be given (as designated by the team not necessarily based on behavior) and authorized by appropriate staff member in accordance with court mandates, and case approval. Visits are not a part of any form of consequence or punishment as this might be contrary to the primary goals of the family unless dictated by the caseworker.



Mail correspondence is also subject to program approval in accordance with court mandates, and case approval.

### ROOM SEARCHES



- Foster care rooms can be searched at any time for contraband of any sort.
- Room searches must be done on a premise and with two staff present.
- \*Client has a right to be made aware of the room search but not necessarily prior to a room search.

<sup>\*</sup>client is referred as anyone who has been screened for possible placement with NLA, anyone currently in placement with NLA, or anyone formerly in placement with NLA.

#### DIGNITY AND BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

- Everyone deserves respect of basic human dignity.
  - Right to access to their home and possessions (contraband or prohibited possessions not included)
    - They will need a house key or access code.
  - Right to respect and unconditional positive regard
  - Right to opportunity for success and happiness
    - Education
    - Visions for success
    - Assistance toward success
    - Regard from the full team and parents to seek a "best-life" opportunities
  - Environment judgment-free of:
    - them, their background, their family, their skills, habits, abilities, and any aspect that might be different from yours.



## RIGHT TO HAPPINESS!



Every person, young and old, has a right to feel and be happy!