

The Right Door for Hope, Recovery, and Wellness

Chapter Title	Chapter #		Subject #
Recipient Rights	RR		126.1
Subject Title			Reviewed
Treatment by Spiritual Means and Religious Freedom	Adopted 04/2/99	Last Revised 9/16/26	09/05/06; 3/29/10; 2/26/14; 1/4/17; 2/9/21; 3/17/22; 2/20/23; 2/20/24; 3/17/25; 5/21/26

PROCEDURE

Application

This procedure shall apply to The Right Door for Hope, Recovery, and Wellness and all services operated by or under contract with it. This procedure shall serve as a guide to assure compliance with Board policy regarding Recipient Rights.

Definition

Treatment by spiritual means is a “spiritual discipline or school of thought that a recipient wishes to rely on to aid physical or mental recovery”.

1. Agency employees or independent contractors and their employees shall allow recipients to visit with religious representatives (ministers, pastors, priests, rabbis, etc.) as they so choose. In residential programs, such visits shall be allowed during regular visiting hours indicated in the program rules or during reasonable times.
2. Treatment by spiritual means shall be allowed on request by a recipient, guardian, or parent of a minor child.
3. Agency employees or independent contractors or their employees, who receive either a verbal or written request from a recipient, guardian, or legal representative of a minor for treatment by spiritual means or to worship shall:
 - 3.1. Document a verbal request in the record of the recipient;
 - 3.2. Include the written request in the record of the recipient; and
 - 3.3. Notify the program supervisor within twenty-four (24) hours (or the next business day) of the request, when the recipient is in a residential services program.

The Right Door for Hope, Recovery, and Wellness

Chapter Title	Chapter #		Subject #
Recipient Rights	RR		126.1
Subject Title			Reviewed
Treatment by Spiritual Means and Religious Freedom	Adopted 04/2/99	Last Revised 9/16/26	09/05/06; 3/29/10; 2/26/14; 1/4/17; 2/9/21; 3/17/22; 2/20/23; 2/20/24; 3/17/25; 5/21/26

4. If the recipient is a resident of a Residential Services Program, the Residential Program Supervisor shall:

- 4.1. Assure that the recipient consents by using a written consent form if the request is made by the guardian or nearest relative and include the consent in the record of the recipient;
- 4.2. Assist the recipient in meeting his/her request to worship; and
- 4.3. Notify the CEO if the recipient, on spiritual grounds, refuses medication or other treatment.
- 4.4. Allow the recipient to request printed, recorded, or visual material essential or related to treatment by spiritual means, and to a symbolic object of similar significance shall be honored and made available at the recipient's expense.

5. The CEO shall:

- 5.1. Seek court-ordered treatment when there is a refusal of medication or other treatment for a minor or an individual whose legal representative refuses, on spiritual grounds, to consent to treatment which is determined to be life-sustaining; and
- 5.2. Notify the requesting person of the denial of a request and the reasons for denial. The requesting person shall be notified of the appeals process, should treatment by spiritual means be denied.
 - 5.2.1. The denial will include instructions for appealing the denial, as well as advocacy organizations outside of The Right Door. This process will follow The Right Door's Appeal process.
 - 5.2.2. If the requesting person does not agree with the outcome of the appeal, the person can file a Recipient Rights complaint.

The Right Door for Hope, Recovery, and Wellness

Chapter Title	Chapter #		Subject #
Recipient Rights	RR		126.1
Subject Title			Reviewed
Treatment by Spiritual Means and Religious Freedom	Adopted 04/2/99	Last Revised 9/16/26	09/05/06; 3/29/10; 2/26/14; 1/4/17; 2/9/21; 3/17/22; 2/20/23; 2/20/24; 3/17/25; 5/21/26

6. A recipient shall have the right to refuse medication, or other treatment, if
 - 6.1. Spiritual treatment predates current allegations of mental illness or disability;
 - 6.2. There is no court order empowering guardian or facility to make those decisions; or
 - 6.3. ~~The recipient is not imminently dangerous to self or others.~~ The patient poses harm to himself or herself or others and treatment is essential to prevent physical injury. [R 330.7135(4)]
7. A recipient may have contact with agencies providing treatment by spiritual means as is provided for contact with private mental health professionals.
8. Treatment by spiritual means does not include the right to:
 - 8.1. Use mechanical, chemical or organic compounds that are physically harmful;
 - 8.2. Engage in an activity that is prohibited by law;
 - 8.3. Engage in an activity that is physically harmful to self or others; or
 - 8.4. Engage in an activity that is inconsistent with court ordered custody or placement by person other than the recipient.

References

Administrative Rules: 330.7135
Administrative Rules: 330.7145

The Right Door for Hope, Recovery, and Wellness

Chapter Title	Chapter #		Subject #
Recipient Rights	RR		126.1
Subject Title			Reviewed
Treatment by Spiritual Means and Religious Freedom	Adopted 04/2/99	Last Revised 9/16/26	09/05/06; 3/29/10; 2/26/14; 1/4/17; 2/9/21; 3/17/22; 2/20/23; 2/20/24; 3/17/25; 5/21/26

Kerry Possehn, Chief Executive Officer	Date		