

IT IS YOUR RIGHT

- ⇒ To be treated with dignity and respect
- ⇒ To receive services regardless of your race, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap or ability to pay;
- ⇒ To the private and confidential treatment of your records;
- ⇒ To be protected from harm, abuse and exploitation;
- ⇒ To participate in the development of your treatment plan;
- ⇒ To a safe, sanitary and humane treatment environment;
- ⇒ To receive services in the least restrictive environment possible; and
- ⇒ To receive assistance in applying for benefits from other agencies.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

8033 Ashton Avenue
Suite 103
Manassas, Virginia 20109
[www:pwcgov.org/csb](http://www.pwcgov.org/csb)

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PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

OUR ROLE IN ASSURING
QUALITY MENTAL
HEALTH, MENTAL
RETARDATION, AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
TREATMENT SERVICES

Tel: 703-792-7702



WHO WE ARE

The Prince William County Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) is a small committee of volunteers, representing the interests of individuals receiving mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse services in community programs.

RULES WE OPERATE UNDER

The Human Rights Regulations of the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services declare that each individual who receives treatment services shall be assured:

- ⇒ Protection to exercise his legal, civil, and human rights related to the receipt of those services;
- ⇒ Respect for basic human dignity; and
- ⇒ Services that are provided consistent with sound therapeutic practice.

Service providers shall not deny any person his legal rights, privileges or benefits solely because he has been voluntarily or involuntarily admitted, certified, or committed to services.

WHAT WE DO

The LHRC performs a vital role in assuring the rights protection of individuals in accordance with state human rights regulations. The Committee reviews and makes recommendations regarding human rights policies and regulations and, most importantly, assists in the formal resolution of human rights complaints.

Specifically, the purposes of the LHRC are:

- ◆ To serve as human rights review committee for affiliated service providers
- ◆ To ensure that each individual shall be assured his legal rights will be protected and will receive care consistent with basic human dignity;
- ◆ To review policies, procedures, and practices to ensure compliance with the Code of Virginia's Human Rights Regulations;
- ◆ To review restrictive behavior treatment programs;
- ◆ To review and approve rules of conduct;
- ◆ To conduct investigations as requested by the State Human Rights Committee;
- ◆ To hold impartial hearings concerning complaints of alleged violations of consumer rights according to the Code of Virginia's Human Rights Regulations.

WHAT IF I FEEL MY RIGHTS HAVE BEEN VIOLATED?

If you feel that your rights as an individual have been violated, please discuss the issue with your program's staff. If this does not bring the desired results, or if you do not feel comfortable bringing the issue to staff's attention, you can file a formal human rights complaint, which will be promptly investigated. If you would like to receive a complaint form, please call (703) 792-7702. If you would like assistance in completing the form, you can contact the Regional Human Rights Advocate at (703)323-2098 or toll free at (877)600-7431.



**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMITTEE**

Can I participate as a Local Human Rights Committee Member?

Yes! If you or a family member would like to be a member of the Local Human Rights Committee, please call 703-323-2098, and request an application.