

INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PLAN

For Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Living in the Community

ADDENDUM A

Individual Client Rights, Grievance and Plan Dispute Summary

Individual Client Rights Regulation (7 NMAC 26.3)

The regulations governing client rights promote the health, safety and welfare of individuals with developmental disabilities who are receiving supports and services from provider agencies certified by or funded with state funds administered through the Department of Health, through contracts and agreements. The client rights regulations define rights of individuals with developmental disabilities so that these rights can be readily identified, exercised and protected.

Unless expressly modified by court order, or specifically granted to a guardian or conservator, all individuals served have the same legal rights guaranteed to all other individuals under the United States Constitution, the New Mexico State Constitution, and federal and state laws.

The Department of Health will enforce remedies for substantiated complaints of violation of the rights of an individual served as provided in the Client Complaint Procedures.

Client Complaint Procedures Regulation (7 NMAC 26.4)

As an individual receiving supports and services through a community agency contracted with the Department of Health or as a legal guardian of an individual receiving services, a complaint procedure is available to you. If, at any time, you feel that a service provider, its employee, or person acting under contract with the service provider has violated your rights, you may initiate the complaint process with the service provider within one hundred eighty (180) days of the event of the occurrence. If the complaint alleges abuse or neglect, or involves a dangerous condition, or a risk to health and safety, the complaint may be made with the division's office without initiating a complaint with the service provider.

If your complaint initiated with the service provider is not resolved, you can file your complaint orally or in writing with the division's designated office within twenty (20) days. A written report of the investigation will be prepared within forty-five (45) days of receipt of your complaint. The Director of the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division will review this report and issue a written decision within ten (10) days of receipt of the report. If you, as a complainant, are not satisfied with the decision of the Director, you may request an Administrative Hearing. Your request must be filed in writing within twenty (20) days from the receipt of the Director's decision.

If you have further questions about the process, or want a copy of these State Regulations, please contact the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division at (505) 827-2574.

The Dispute Resolution Process (7 NMAC 26.8)

As a former class member in Jackson Vs. Ft. Stanton, et al, that is, as an individual who formerly resided in a state institution or as the parent/guardian of a former class member in Jackson Vs. Ft. Stanton, et al, you have the right to file a dispute with the Individual Assistance and Advocacy/Dispute Resolution Unit, if you do not agree with the content of the individual's current Individual Service Plan (ISP). The dispute must be filed within thirty (30) days of the mailing of the completed ISP. A facilitated conference will be scheduled. Whenever possible, an attempt will be made to resolve the dispute informally.

If, at any time, you feel the ISP, as developed by the Team, is not being properly carried out, you have the right to file a dispute with the Individual Assistance and Advocacy/Dispute Resolution Unit, for a substantial failure to implement the Plan. A facilitated conference will be scheduled. Whenever possible, an attempt will be made to resolve the dispute informally.

If the team does not reach resolution of the disputed issues at the facilitated conference, a determination will be made by a mediator. If you do not agree with the mediator's determination, you may file a request for an Administrative Hearing. This request must be made within fifteen (15) days of the mediator's determination.

A dispute can be filed by calling the Dispute Resolution Process Coordinator at (505) 841-5529 or 1-800-283-5548. You can also file the request to dispute the plan in writing. If you wish to file in writing, send a letter to the following address:

New Mexico Department of Health
Developmental Disabilities Supports Division
Individual Assistance and Advocacy/Dispute Resolution Unit
5301 Central Avenue NE Suite 1700
Albuquerque, NM 87108

If you have further questions about this process, please contact the Dispute Resolution Process Coordinator at (505) 8941-5529 or 1-800-283-5548.

I have had the above rights which pertain to me explained to me. I have received, or have been told where to receive a copy of the relevant regulations pertaining to my rights.

INDIVIDUAL

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN

DATE

CASE MANAGER

DATE