

YOUTH HAVE RIGHTS

At **DISABILITY RIGHTS MAINE**, we have **ADVOCATES** that help youth like you who are receiving services in the community, the hospital, or in a residential program.

An **ADVOCATE** is someone who fights to protect your rights. We make sure you know what your rights are – and that your rights are not being violated.

YOUR RIGHTS - NO EXCEPTIONS

- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to contact an **ADVOCATE** if you feel your rights have been violated.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to be treated with **DIGNITY, COURTESY, and RESPECT**.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to be free from abuse, exploitation, and neglect.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to not be intimidated, bullied, or mistreated by other residents or staff.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to file a grievance if you feel any of your rights have been violated; just tell someone or write it down.
- ★ If you file a grievance, the staff **CANNOT** punish you or treat you any differently.

OTHER IMPORTANT RIGHTS

(Exceptions May Apply - Ask an Advocate)

- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to keep and use your belongings.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to be free from unnecessary searches of your body or belongings.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to send and receive unopened mail.
- ★ You have the **RIGHT** to have visitors and to make telephone calls during reasonable times.
- ★ If you are 14 or older, you have the **RIGHT** to be involved in creating or changing your **TREATMENT** or **SERVICE PLAN**. This includes talking about your medications, therapy, and other treatment options.

If you have **QUESTIONS** or think your **RIGHTS** have been violated,

CALL US at 1.800.452.1948 **OR**

EMAIL US at advocate@drme.org

If an **ADVOCATE** is not available to speak with you immediately, please leave a message. Someone will call you back as soon as possible.

**DISABILITY
RIGHTS
MAINE** 

24 Stone Street, Suite 204
Augusta, ME 04330
1.800.452.1948 (V/TTY)