

YOUTH HAVE RIGHTS

DISABILITY RIGHTS MAINE has **ADVOCATES** who can 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 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 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 

160 Capitol Street, Suite 4
Augusta, ME 04330
207.626.2774 (V/TTY)
800.452.1948 (V/TTY)