

Freedom from Coercion

I. **Policy:**

Every individual receiving services will be free from coercion or any behavior that forces, threatens, intimidates, or uses other unethical means to influence individuals.

II. **Standards:**

The following rights will be afforded all individuals receiving Home and Community Based Waiver Services:

1. Individuals will be provided information about their rights, at least annually, in a manner that every individual can understand.
2. Individuals will be provided information about how to file a complaint should their rights be violated by staff or any other persons in the setting.
3. There will be no retaliation for individuals exercising their rights, including their right to file complaints.
4. Rights will be posted in public areas, where all individuals can view in a manner and language that can be understood by individuals, their guardians/families, and others.
5. All staff will be trained on their rights, including their role and responsibilities to ensure the protection of their rights.
6. The HCBS Settings Compliance Checklist, issued by the ADMH-Developmental Disabilities Division in July 2022, will be used in training staff on all rights including providing guidance to staff on how to practice and apply these rights.