

**GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH
AND RECOVERY SERVICES**

TITLE: CIVIL RIGHTS POLICY STATEMENT FOR CLIENTS

SECTION: III C.1

APPROVAL DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2003

It is the policy of the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services to treat all clients without regard to race, color, national origin, disability or contagious diseases, age, sex, or religion or inability to pay, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to, discrimination under any program, service or benefit advocated, authorized, funded, or otherwise provided. Furthermore, neither a person's sex, nor the fact of a woman's pregnancy, shall be grounds for exclusion from participation in, denial of benefits of, nor discrimination under, any program or service activity, funded in whole or in part with funds made available through any funding of the Board. All persons and organizations having occasion either to refer clients for services or to recommend the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services are advised to do so without regard to the potential client's race, color, national origin, disability or contagious diseases, age, sex, religion, or inability to pay.

Any person with a disability may alert the Client Rights Coordinator that an accommodation is needed. The Client Rights Coordinator will arrange the appropriate services or aids to achieve effective accommodations for those with disabilities.

Individuals will be made aware of their rights through a posting of the rights at the Board and through the designated Client Rights Officer of each contract service provider. Any person who feels they have been discriminated against because of their race, color, national origin, disability or contagious diseases, age, sex, religion or inability to pay has the right to file a complaint.

All service providers funded by the Board shall operate in accordance with, and be required to meet their obligations pertinent to, the non-discriminatory requirements pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; where applicable, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981; and the Fair Housing Amendments of 1988.

The person designated to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Nondiscrimination Against the Disabled) is Christine Lakomiak, who can be reached at (440) 285-2282.

Christine Lakomiak, Executive Director
Civil Rights Coordinator
Gauga County Board of

Mental Health and Recovery Services
13244 Ravenna Road
Chardon, Ohio 44024

- ◆ Additional assistance in filing a complaint may be obtained from:

Ohio Department of Mental Health
& Addiction Services
30 E. Broad Street, 36th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Telephone: (614) 466-2596
<http://mha.ohio.gov>

Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services
233 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 240
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: (800) 368-1019
TDD: (800) 537-7697
www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/index.html