

Rights Tip

Changes to the Administrative Rules

4/22/08

1. What changes have been made to the Administrative Rules?

The definitions of Abuse and Neglect (Failure to Report) changed in the Administrative Rules.

2. Why is it important for me to know these changes regarding Abuse and Neglect?

You are a mandated to report apparent and/or suspected abuse or neglect. The changes that have been made to Abuse and Neglect will change the reasons why you would make a report.

Changes to Abuse:

Exploitation is now considered to be abuse. Exploitation is defined as the misappropriation or misuse of a recipient's property/funds by an employee, volunteer and/or agent of a provider. Listed below are examples of exploitation:

- 1) An employee steals a recipient's funds such as money, a bridge card, gift cards and/or credit cards.
- 2) An employee steals a recipient's property such as jewelry, clothing, food, medication or laundry soap.

Changes to Neglect:

The criteria for Neglect (Failure to Report) has been expanded. It is now considered neglectful to fail to report any allegation of abuse or neglect even if a recipient is not harmed. Remember, that it is policy to report all rights allegations to the Rights Office by no later than the next business day.

Have a good day.

Shane Ray, LMSW
Supervisor, Office of Recipient Rights
Washtenaw Community Health Organization
555 Towner, PO Box 915
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone: (734) 544-3013
Fax: (734) 544-6732