

RECIPIENT RIGHTS POLICY REVIEW:

ExpertCare Management Services is a provider agency which services Community Mental Health Agencies and their affiliates. ExpertCare takes the necessary steps to ensure consumers will be protected from rights violations while they are receiving services and support.

Abuse and Neglect Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that abuse, and neglect will not be tolerated. The consumer has the right not to be physically, sexually, or otherwise abused (including sexual harassment). If Caregivers report any suspicion of consumer abuse to the Office of Recipient Rights, to the Police Department and/or Protective Services, ExpertCare will cooperate in the prosecution of appropriate criminal charges against those who have engaged in unlawful abuse.

Change in Type of Treatment Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that Caregivers assist and support the consumer through a change in treatment. Caregivers should monitor and notify any observation or recommendations to the appropriate support services. Caregivers will assist consumer with contacting a member of their support team with questions regarding their plan of service.

Communication and Visits Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to provide support services as outlined in the plan of service that uphold the consumer's right to have unimpeded, private, and uncensored communication with others by mail and telephone and to visit with persons of his or her choice. Caregivers will assist consumers in obtaining contact information of those individuals the consumer desires to contact. Individual limitations should be thoroughly documented in the plan of service.

Comprehensive Examinations Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to assist consumers with scheduling transportation and setting doctor appointments directly related with physical and mental examinations as stated in the IPOS. Caregivers shall provide relevant observations of current behaviors that may provide additional insight through the exam process and development of the individual plan of service.

Confidentiality and Disclosure

ExpertCare Management Services takes the privacy of personal health information (PHI) seriously. A number of laws and regulations including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Act 258 and the Michigan Mental Health Code protect PHI. Caregivers are required to sign a receipt of acknowledgement of our confidentiality policy.

Consent to Treatment and Services Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to advise the consumer of his/her right to give consent in order to receive treatment or release confidential information. Caregivers can assist, if necessary, in contacting the appropriate support services for the consumer to gain knowledge and understanding to make a voluntary decision to consent.

Right to be Treated with Dignity and Respect Policy and to be Free from Humiliation

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that Caregivers treat consumers and consumer family members with dignity and respect. It is the policy that staff never treat consumers in a humiliating way. Caregivers can provide information about our support services and screening process to the consumer and the consumer family members. The culture and religion of the consumer and their family must be respected. Caregivers may not leave religious pamphlets or make attempts to convert the consumer or the consumer family.

Fingerprinting, Photographing, Audio Taping, and Use of One-Way Glass Policy

Photographs may not be taken by Caregivers for social or personal purposes unless the consumer or applicable parent/guardian has consented in writing. This includes, but is not limited to, postings on social media sites. Caregivers must inform the consumer of his/her rights when fingerprinted, photographed, or audio taped and during the use of one-way glass. A written consent must be obtained from the consumer or applicable parent/guardian.

Medication Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to provide medication support through reminding, observing and/or monitoring of medication.

Freedom from Retaliation

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that no employee of ExpertCare will retaliate against a consumer or family member for any reason, including complaints made by the consumer or family against staff or ExpertCare.

Freedom of Movement Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that Freedom of Movement is not limited by Caregivers. Physical restraint or seclusion may not be used to limit the movement of a consumer.

Property and Funds Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to support the consumer's entitlement to receive, possess, and use all personal property and funds unless limited by law or limited in the IPOS. Our Caregivers provide assistance for the consumer to access the money in his or her account, spend or otherwise use money as he or she chooses unless limited in the IPOS. Caregivers shall not use consumers' money, credit cards, debit cards or receive gifts from consumers. Caregivers and consumer monies shall not be commingled. Caregivers shall not borrow, receive or ask for loans from consumers. It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that Caregivers are prohibited from selling anything to the consumer or requesting that the consumer look at goods/services the Caregiver sells. The Caregiver is prohibited from leaving catalogs or pamphlets with the consumer or the consumer's family.

Resident Labor Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to provide support services to our consumers at work and work training sites as defined in the plan of service. The Caregiver shall report to the appropriate personnel observations or concerns in work habit or work methods that are outside the plan of service or contradict with applicable federal and state labor laws including minimum wage.

Right to Entertainment Material, Information and News Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to provide support services as outlined in the IPOS which upholds the consumer's right to acquire, at a personal expense, and/or read written or printed material. ExpertCare Management Services also upholds the consumer's right to listen or to watch television, radio, recordings or movies. All individual limitations should be justified and documented in the plan of service.

Use of Physical Management

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that physical management is not permitted by ExpertCare staff except in circumstances under the conditions set forth or other law.

- Physical management is defined as being physically held with no more force than is necessary by an ExpertCare staff member in order to prevent the consumer from physically harming himself, herself or others. Any physical management must be reported immediately to a supervisor at ExpertCare and an Incident Report must be filled out and sent to the proper Recipient Rights Office.

Use of Restraint and Seclusion Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that restraint and seclusion are not permitted by ExpertCare staff. Physical restraint is defined as the use of a physical device to restrict an individual's movement. Restraint is any physical or mechanical device, material or equipment that immobilizes or reduces the ability of the recipient to move his arms, legs body or head freely for the purposes of management, control or extinction of seriously aggressive, self-injurious or other behaviors that place the individual or others at risk. This definition of restraint excludes supports used in PT or OT exercises which are used for the purpose of maintaining or improving functioning.

Services Suited to Condition in a Least Restrictive Setting Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that the consumer receives services suited to their condition in the least restrictive setting. Caregivers will support and encourage the consumer's goals and objectives outlined in the plan of service.

Sterilization, Contraception, and Abortion Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to assist a consumer in setting appointments for family planning and health services according to the consumer's request or identifying resources to gain relevant information.

Treatment by Spiritual Means

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services to have Caregivers help the consumer seek out resources for spiritual treatment at their request. Consumers shall be permitted treatment by spiritual means on request, or the request of the consumer's guardian/parent of a minor consumer. The consumer must consent to such treatment.

Use of Psychotropic Drugs Policy

It is the policy of ExpertCare Management Services that Caregivers will transport and provide support so the consumer can obtain medication from the pharmacy. The Caregiver will notify the appropriate support services if they observe concerns and/or unusual behavior. ExpertCare will assist the consumer in contacting the appropriate resource to answer medication questions.