

2024  
November

A MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER  
ABOUT YOUR  
RIGHTS AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES

# Right Here!

## Rights of the Month

- Send and Receive Mail
- Make / Receive Calls
- Spend Money
- Be Safe
- Vote
- Live Where You Want
- Belong to Groups
- Have the Best Health
- Practice Cultural and Religious Beliefs
- Be Heard, Have Freedom of Expression
- Be Free From Abuse, Neglect and Mistreatment
- Have Personal Possessions
- Have Privacy
- Obtain Meaningful and Productive Work
- Decide and Participate in What People Say, Share and Write About You
- Make Decisions About Your Life
- Have Family, Friends and Intimate Relationships
- Express Grievances and Object to Services



## This issue

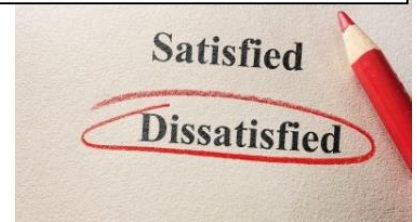
The Right to Express Grievances and Object to Services **P.1**

*You Have the Right to Express Grievances and Object to Services*

It's crucial for people with disabilities to have the right to object to services and report grievances. This ensures they receive fair treatment and can address issues they encounter. Here are some key points:

- **Legal Protections:** Laws like the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provides robust protections. They allow individuals to file complaints if they face discrimination or inadequate services.
- **Complaint Mechanisms:** There are established processes for reporting grievances. For example, complaints can be filed with various federal agencies depending on the nature of the issue such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for employment issues.
- **Autonomy and Self-Advocacy:** People with disabilities have the right to make decisions and express their preferences. Allowing them to voice grievances and objections to services enables them to advocate for themselves and assert their autonomy.

*-Bridget Murphy, Quality Assurance & Training Specialist*



## Did You Know?

OPWDD Regulations **14 CRR-NY 633.4** includes,

**“No person shall be denied: ...**

(xiii) **the opportunity, either personally or through parent(s), guardian(s) or correspondent (see glossary), to express without fear of reprisal grievances, concerns and suggestions to the chief executive officer of the facility; the Commissioner of OPWDD; the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs**