



SHIAWASSEE COUNTY COMMUNITY

Mental Health

Family Rights

Shiawassee County Community Mental Health understands the importance of including persons close to an individual in planning and working on treatment goals. Certain rights are guaranteed to family members, guardians and other significant others. As a family member of a consumer of mental health services you have the right:

- ◆ To be treated with dignity and respect.
- ◆ To provide information about your family member and to request that information be included in the consumer's file. This information may be read by the consumer if he/she asks to see his/her file.
- ◆ To request and receive specific educational information about the nature of disorders, medication risks and benefits and available resources including support services and advocacy and support groups, sources of financial assistance and coping strategies.

Your opinions and viewpoints are important to us. It is important for you to be aware that your family member has various rights which we explained to

him/her. We give all consumers a written copy of these rights. Confidentiality is a right guaranteed to anyone receiving mental health services. In order to assure this right we must have a signed consent (permission) in the following situations:

- ◆ To share specific information with you about your family member or if your family member is receiving services.
- ◆ To give specific information about your family member's diagnosis or treatment.
- ◆ We are able to provide general information about services and educational materials about many topics. Our shared information cannot breach confidentiality. For example, We would not be able to provide your family member's illness information. We would be able to offer you information if you asked "Can I get information on de-pression?"
- ◆ When information about a child is being requested by an extended family member, a consent form signed by a legal parent will be needed before information can be released.



The Shiawassee County Community Mental Health Center is an equal opportunity employer and provides services without regards to race, sex, religion, color, age, national origin, ancestry or disability.