

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM RELIGIOUS PRESSURE OR COERCION IN THE HOME OR FACILITY WHERE YOU ARE PLACED.

SPECIFICALLY, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT:

1. Not to be discriminated against based on your religion, or your lack of religious beliefs.
2. Not to be forced or pressured to change your religious beliefs or practices, or to adopt a religion.
3. Not to be forced or pressured to attend church or any other religious activity.
4. Not to be punished for declining to attend church or any other religious activity.
5. To participate in a non-religious activity, if you choose not to attend a religious activity.
6. To have reasonable opportunities to practice your own religion, if any, and to have reasonable opportunities to participate in religious activities of your faith.
7. Not to have any religious symbols, religious texts, or other religious items in your room, unless you specifically request them.
8. To be given religious symbols, texts, or items of your faith, upon reasonable request, if DCBS and/or the placement provider can reasonably obtain them.
9. To object to being placed in a home or facility based upon its religious affiliation and to have DCBS consider your objections and make reasonable efforts to provide an alternate placement when available.

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THE WAY YOUR FOSTER PARENT OR RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM HAS TREATED YOU RELATING TO RELIGION, YOU MAY CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN AT 1-800-372-2973. YOU ALSO CAN DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS WITH YOUR DCBS CASE WORKER.

IF YOUR CONCERN IS UNRESOLVED, YOU MAY ALSO FILE A SERVICE APPEAL BY COMPLETING THE ATTACHED FORM DPP-154. THIS FORM MUST BE FILED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THE ACTION YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPEAL. PLEASE MAIL THE FORM TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE FORM. YOU WILL RECEIVE FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM YOUR OMBUDSMAN.