

Your Rights as a Person with a Guardian

Rights are things that people can have or do. People with disabilities should be allowed to have and do all the same things as people without disabilities. When people understand their rights, they have better lives! Do you have a legal Guardian? This information brief will let you know about the rights of someone who has a legal Guardian.



Right to Dignity and Respect:

You have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. Guardians must make decisions that make you feel respected and **NOT** treat you like you don't matter.



Right to Participate in Decision-Making:

You have the right to participate in decisions that affect your life. Guardians should communicate with you in ways that allow you to say what you want and what you don't want for your life. They should help make you feel that what you say matters.



Right to Community Inclusion:

You have the right to see and meet new people and participate in community activities. Guardians should help set up opportunities for social inclusion, helping you to get to know other people in your community.



Right to Healthcare, Education and Support:

You have the right to get care from the best doctors for you and your needs, including regular check-ups. You have the right to get the best possible teaching and support for you and your needs from teachers and staff.



Right to Protection from Abuse and Right to Legal Help:

You have the right to be protected from someone hurting you, both physically and emotionally; Your guardian should make sure that does not happen. You have a right to make your voice heard when it comes to legal decisions that affect your life.

***If you feel your rights are NOT being supported by your guardian or anyone else, please call Disability Rights SD at 1-800-658-4782. If someone is hurting you physically or emotionally, please call Dakota at Home at 1-833-663-9673 to report the problem.**

