

Resource Parent Handbook

Chapter 21 – Youth Bill of Rights

Please see [Chapter 8 - Resource Parents and Teaming](#) for more information on YOUR rights as a resource parent – you can also read your own copy of the rights by clicking this link: [Rights and Responsibilities of Resource Parents Serving District of Columbia Children in Care](#).

No matter what age, when a child enters out-of-home (foster) care, that child has rights, including the right to a safe resource home, nurturance, well-being, age-appropriate privacy, and other rights. For older children and youth, they have the right to know why they are in care, who their team members are (including service providers), communication and case planning with those team members, some decisions on services, when their team meetings are scheduled, and participation in those meetings.



We've included the [District of Columbia Bill of Rights for Children and Youth in Foster Care](#) in this handbook because the more you know, the more you are able to advocate for the child or youth in your home, and the more you can help protect those rights. We cannot over emphasize the importance of your advocacy for the children in your home!!



NOTE: Even if the child in your home is an infant, knowing the Bill of Rights can help you advocate for that child if there is any concern if any of those rights are not fulfilled.

Please share any concerns with the social worker or your assigned RPSW. If you still have concerns, then please follow the chain-of-command as well as any additional guidance from [Chapter 22 - Addressing Your Concerns](#).

