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## CLIENT RIGHTS

Every foster child is endowed with the rights inherently belonging to all children. In addition, because of the temporary or permanent separation from and loss of parents and other family members, the foster child requires special safeguards, resources, and care.

You have the right to:

1. The right to receive services in a safe, secure and positive environment.
2. The right to participate in the development of the plan of services to be offered by BLOOM and to be informed of the expectations of all parties involved in the implementation of the plan.
3. The right to confidentiality of all client records. Client consent is required prior to release or obtainment of any confidential information except as allowed by law or current privacy laws and regulations.
4. The right to access client files for the purpose of review, correction or addition.
5. The right not to be subjected to any research activities outside of the routine plan of services, without the client's informed written consent.
6. The right to have identity protected in the context of any BLOOM reports, statistical analyses of case summaries published as a result of participation in the routine plan of service.
7. The right to refuse to be filmed or taped.
8. The right of access to a grievance procedure to ensure all rights.
9. The right to refuse any treatment or medication.
10. The right to be protected from bullying by other children, foster parents and staff; the right to live in an atmosphere where bullying is known to be unacceptable.

If you have a concern that you feel is not being heard, there is a grievance procedure you can follow:

- First, you should talk to your Social Worker and try to find a solution to the problem.
- If you are not satisfied or feel your concerns were not heard, you should call the Program Director who is the BLOOM Child Advocacy Representative.

The Child Advocacy Representative (Ombudsman) is: Nancy Connerat.  
She can be reached at (770) 461-7020.

The Child Advocacy Representative will write down your complaint and take it to the appropriate staff for a solution. This should happen within one week. The Child Advocacy Representative will contact you with an answer to the problem.

<b>Client Signature:</b>	Date:
<b>Foster Parent Signature:</b>	Date:
<b>DFCS Case Manager Signature:</b>	Date:
<b>BLOOM Social Worker Signature:</b>	Date:
<b>Program Director Signature:</b>	Date: