

RESIDENTS' RIGHTS MONTH



SPEAK UP: Know Your Rights And How To Use Them

National Consumer Voice For Quality Long-Term Care

October is Residents' Rights Month, an annual event designated by Consumer Voice to honor residents living in all long-term care facilities. It is an opportunity to focus on and celebrate awareness of dignity, respect and the rights of each resident.

Residents' Rights are guaranteed by the federal 1987 Nursing Home Reform Law.

The law requires nursing homes to “promote and protect the rights of each resident” and places a strong emphasis on individual dignity and self determination.

The 1987 Nursing Home Reform Law protects the following rights of nursing home residents:

- ◇ Right to Be Fully Informed
- ◇ Right to Complain
- ◇ Right to Participate in One's Own Care
- ◇ Right to Privacy and Confidentiality
- ◇ Rights During Transfers and Discharges
- ◇ Right to Dignity, Respect, and Freedom
- ◇ Right to Visits
- ◇ Right to Make Independent Choices

How You Can Celebrate — RRM Activity Suggestions:

- ◇ **Show and Tell** – Residents pick an item that is important to them and share with a group why it is special.
- ◇ **Book Club** – Residents select a book and hold a discussion at the end of the month.
- ◇ **Speak Up** – Discuss with residents how they exercise their rights. Ask them about a time when they spoke out and used their rights for quality care.

Find additional activity ideas at
<http://theconsumervoice.org/events/residents-rights-month-2018#activities>

For more information on Residents' Rights Month, visit
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