

## **BILL OF RIGHTS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY**

The World Psychiatric Association (WPA), a global organization representing nearly 250,000 psychiatrists, urges ALL Governments to ensure that children and young persons as well as adults with mental illness/mental disability/mental health problems are not discriminated against based on their mental health status, and are treated as full citizens enjoying all rights on an equal basis with other citizens. Intellectual disability is often accompanied by complex co-morbidities and it is therefore crucial that all aspects of their care are looked after appropriately. There are different levels of intellectual disability and services should therefore take appropriate and suitable actions in supporting individuals.

The WPA supports the efforts of the international community as expressed through various international human rights Covenants and Conventions and, more particularly, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The WPA reiterates that children and adults with Intellectual Disability should have the same access to services and rights as those with physical illness or have the capacity to hold rights and exercise their rights accordingly.

This includes but it is not limited to:

1. Right to access affordable and appropriate mental and physical healthcare and achieve equity of outcomes;
2. Right to live independently in the community wherever possible as other citizens with appropriate support;
3. Right to receive education, support and training to work and opportunities to work with reasonable adjustment and necessary protections at work, , as available to other citizens; Including affirmative action
4. Right to receive adequate income or financial support to meet their basic needs for food, housing, clothing, etc.;
5. Right to accessible, integrated, affordable and appropriate housing;
6. Right to freedom of movement and removal of restrictions on free travel with due support if needed;
7. Right to be provided with adequate support to exercise their rights;
8. Right to have a family life with support as required;
9. Right to determine their future and make their own life choices with full protection of the law;
10. Right to vote and participate in civic life as far as possible;
11. Right to be free from cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment and punishment;
12. Right to be recognised as equal before the law as other citizens and the right to full protection of the law with adequate and suitable support in all settings;
13. Right to confidentiality and privacy;
14. Right to participate in the cultural and social life of the community and to practice a religion of their choice;

15. Right to receive age-appropriate support to achieve independent living and functioning at all ages of adult life.

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