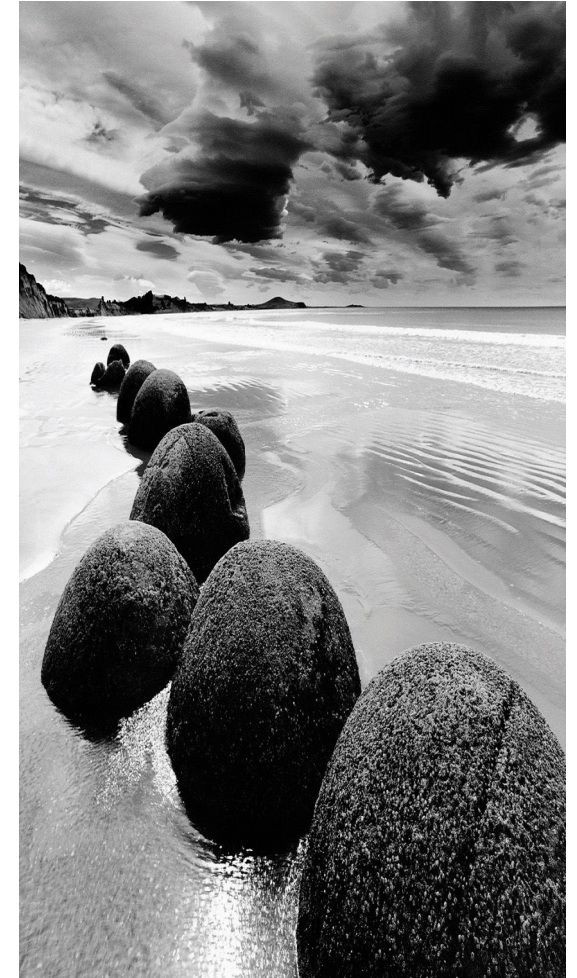


PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Advocating for the rights and interests of our clients, helps increase public awareness and eliminate stigma.

MHPRA Program
1357 W Shaw Ave Ste 101
Fresno, CA 93711



MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE PROGRAM

Basic Information



What We Do

- Investigate and resolve complaints from consumers about rights violations.
- Monitor facilities for compliance with patients' rights laws, regulations and policies.
- Train staff in mental health facilities about patients' rights laws, regulations and policies.
- Advocate for patients and residents who are afraid or unable to register a complaint.
- Represent patients in certification review hearings.

Value of Advocacy

Patients' rights advocates represent client's interests as defined by the client, as long as those interests are within the bounds of the law and are achievable within the Advocate's resources.

In addition to solving problems that contribute to psychological distress, advocacy helps to give clients a measure of autonomy and dignity.

Advocacy can help to improve communication, diffuse tensions and resolve conflicts when disagreements have arisen between a client and a service provider.

Fundamental Concepts

- Right to Liberty
- Right to Due Process
- Right to Least Restrictive Treatment
- Right to Equal Treatment

Sanctions for Interference

Welfare and Institutions Code § 5550 states no person shall knowingly obstruct any county patients' rights advocate in the performance of duties, including, but not limited to, access to clients or potential clients, or to their records, whether financial, medical, or records, or otherwise violate the provisions of this chapter.

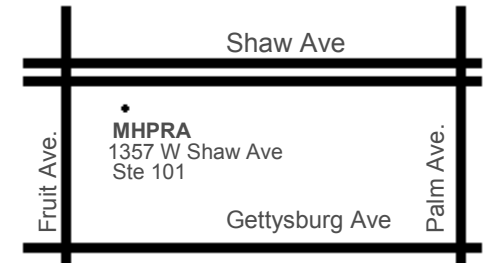
Any person or facility knowingly found to obstruct a patients' rights advocate in the performance of their duties may subject the individual or facility to a civil penalty of \$100.00 to \$1000.00 (WIC § 5550 [b][c][e])



Who We Are

Each county mental health director is required to assign a Patients' Rights Advocate and delegate to this person the responsibility for ensuring the statutory and constitutional rights of persons identified as mental health clients (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5520).

MHPRA Program is contracted by the County of Fresno to provide Patients' Rights Advocacy services to all consumers receiving mental health services in Fresno County.



Contact Us

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