

CLIENT SAFETY/PUNISHMENT PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOL

1. Policy: JFCS is committed to providing a safe, secure and non-threatening environment for its clients, staff and visitors. It is the policy of JFCS that this includes strong prohibition of any staff from using any physical intervention with any clients or with individuals visiting the agency. To this end, the agency places great emphasis on professional development by helping all employees learn de-escalation techniques and non-physical behavioral intervention for client benefit. This is congruent with the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics that governs the fundamental behaviors of licensed social work professionals.
2. Procedures: Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service expressly restricts the following activities in the course of its clinical interventions:
 - a. Corporal punishment
 - b. Use of adverse stimuli
 - c. Chemical restraint
 - d. Interventions that withhold nutritional hydration
 - e. Forced physical exercise
 - f. Punitive work assignments
 - g. Punishment by peers
 - h. Group punishment or discipline for individual behavior
 - i. The appropriation of an individual's financial resources.
 - j. Locked seclusion
 - k. Mechanical and manual restraints
 - l. Isolation

In instances when an individual is abusing and/or neglecting a child, the agency will follow child abuse reporting protocols, cognizant that this may result in the potential removal of the child.

Situations where individuals present a risk to themselves or others:

In situations where individuals by virtue of a psychiatric disability have decompensated and are deemed to be a risk to themselves or others, Jewish Family and Children's Service will follow a protocol (See Section VII. C. JFCS of Southern New Jersey Threat to Self or Others Policy), which may lead to the involuntary commitment of said individual by the legally mandated authority within the State of New Jersey. Where an individual is a threat to themselves or others and are accompanied by a responsible adult, the responsible party is instructed to transport the individual to a hospital or crisis center. Where the individual is not accompanied by a responsible adult, local authorities are contacted for such transport.

If a client continues to present escalating aggression and potential violence, despite the verbal, non-physical de-escalation techniques, the staff member has access to emergency

panic buttons in each treatment location. When activated, support staff and local police will be alerted for assistance. Staff has been trained in the appropriate use and circumstances surrounding the use of these buttons.

By initialing the box you agree that you have read this and agree to comply with our policies.