**Section 264.1700 Client Rights**

a) A client shall not be deprived of any rights, benefits, or privileges guaranteed by law based solely on the client's status as a client of the birth center.

b) Every client shall be permitted to refuse medical treatment and to know the consequences of such action.

c) It is the right of every pregnant person, and support person, to expect and receive services as per the Medical Patient Rights Act and as listed below:

1) Good quality care and high professional standards that are continually maintained and reviewed.

2) Answers to questions regarding services and treatment, and the names and functions of the staff person providing services.

3) Confidentiality of client records. Information from or copies of records may be released only to authorized individuals, and the birth center shall ensure that unauthorized individuals cannot gain access to or alter client records. The birth center shall release original medical records only in accordance with federal or State laws, court orders, or subpoenas.

4) Unimpeded, private, and uncensored communication by mail and telephone. The birth center shall ensure that correspondence is promptly received and mailed, and that telephones are reasonably accessible.

5) Respectful and dignified treatment at all times.

6) Information regarding cost and counseling on the availability of known financial resources to the service being rendered.

7) Disclosure and discussion of the nature, purposes, expected effects, and results of the medical treatment under consideration, prior to signing an informed consent.

8) Access to an obstetrician, family practitioner (family physician), physician, certified nurse midwife, or licensed certified professional midwife, pursuant to Section 264.1250(n).

9) A copy of the birth center's rules that apply to conduct as a pregnant person, spouse, support person, and other family member or visitor.

10) A written copy of the rights guaranteed by this Section and by the birth center.

11) Treatment without discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sexual preference, national origin, or source of payment.

12) The right to expect emergency procedures to be implemented without unnecessary delay.