

NOTIFICATION OF FACILITY MONITORING

Disability Rights South Dakota (DRSD) is the designated Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System in South Dakota. DRSD advocates for and protects the rights of individuals with disabilities in South Dakota, including investigating allegations of abuse and neglect.

As the federally mandated P&A, DRSD has the broad federal authority to monitor facilities to ensure the safety and health of the residents, and to provide information and/or training on resident rights.

Facility monitoring consists of –

- providing information about DRSD;
- monitoring compliance with respect to the rights and safety of individuals with disabilities;
- meeting privately with individuals with disabilities. DRSD may speak with these individuals without approval from a parent or guardian/conservator. However, DRSD will not take any formal action on behalf of any individual or initiate a formal legal services relationship without consent, except in emergency situations of imminent danger;
- having reasonable unaccompanied access to all areas used by and accessible to individuals with disabilities; and,
- inspecting, viewing, and photographing all areas of the facility that are used by residents or are accessible to residents.

These activities will be conducted in a manner that minimizes the interference with treatment and programs.

DRSD contact information: 1-800-658-4782; www.DRSDlaw.org