



**Forks
Community
Hospital**

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Department: Compliance
Manual(s):

Policy & Procedure : Nondiscrimination

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 1 (District hereinafter) to provide equal access to its facilities and services without unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran or military status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local law.

PURPOSE:

None listed.

DEFINITIONS:

None listed.

EQUIPMENT/SOFTWARE:

None listed.

PROCEDURE:

1. Nondiscrimination: The District will treat all individuals including staff, applicants, volunteers, representatives, patients, and visitors receiving or participating in services with equality and in a welcoming manner that is consistent with this policy.
2. Notice: The District will provide notice to patients regarding this policy and its commitment to providing access to and the provision of services in a nondiscriminatory manner pursuant to Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act.
3. Reasonable Accommodations: The District will inform patients of the availability of and make reasonable accommodations for patients consistent with Federal and state requirements. This includes, for example, informing patients of their right to appropriate auxiliary aids and services such as qualified language interpreters for non-English speaking patients and sign language interpreters for hearing-impaired patients. Aids and services will be provided free of charge and in a timely manner when such aids and services are necessary to ensure an equal opportunity to participate to individuals with disabilities or to provide meaningful access to individuals with limited English proficiency.
4. Visitation Rights: The District will afford visitation rights to patients free from discrimination and will ensure that visitors receive equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preferences.
5. Provision of Services: Staff will determine eligibility for and provide services, financial aid, and other benefits to all patients in a similar manner, without subjecting any individual to separate or different treatment.
6. Complaints and Grievances: Any person who believes that he, she, or another person has been subjected to discrimination which is not permitted by the policy, may file a complaint as outlined in the District's Patient Family Community Complaint and Grievance Process Policy & Procedure, which will provide prompt and equitable resolutions of grievances. Any staff receiving a patient or visitor discrimination complaint will advise the complaining individual that he or she may report the problem without fear of retaliation. Staff are prohibited from retaliating against any person who opposes, complains about, or reports discrimination, files a complaint, or cooperates in an investigation of discrimination or other proceeding under Federal, state, or local nondiscrimination law.

7. Compliance: The Districts Compliance Officer is responsible for coordinating compliance with this policy and for coordinating efforts under Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, including the investigation of any grievance related to Section 1557.

REFERENCES:

- 1. RCW 49.60.030 Freedom from Discrimination - Declaration of Civil Rights
- 2. 45 CFR Part 92 Nondiscrimination in Health Programs or Activities
- 3. Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

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Approvals	
- Committees:	(09/11/2024) Compliance Committee, (09/19/2024) Non-Clinical Policy Committee,
- Signers:	
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Attachments:	RCW 49.60.030 Freedom from Discrimination - Declaration of Civil Rights
(REFERENCED BY THIS DOCUMENT)	45 CFR Part 92
	Patient Family Community Complaint and Grievance Process
	Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
Other Documents:	
(WHICH REFERENCE THIS DOCUMENT)	

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