

ALBERT J. SOLNIT CHILDREN'S CENTER

ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT LEGAL

Youth and Family Advocates

91-2-1.1

Policy

The Albert J. Solnit Center – South Campus - shall identify Youth and Family Advocates who are Solnit staff members who have volunteered to be responsible for identifying, resolving, and channeling issues and concerns on behalf of individual youths or groups of youths.

The Youth and Family Advocates shall focus on youth rights and welfare and shall represent the youth and family perspective in forums relating to the development of policy and procedures (*e.g.*, on the Legal and Ethics Committee).

**Supervision
Received**

The Youth and Family Advocates shall receive supervision from the Chairperson of Legal and Ethics Committee.

Responsibilities

The Youth and Family Advocates shall have four major areas of responsibility.

1. The Youth and Family Advocates shall respond to youth or family inquires or complaints. The Advocates shall:
 - maintain written records of interventions, document trends or opportunities for improvement in youth care services, and provide quarterly reports through the Legal and Ethics Committee;
 - work with unit staff and Administration in identifying actions steps to resolve individual, family or group concerns; and
 - identify issues of concern to families of youth and channel these to the appropriate Hospital department or committee.
 2. The Youth and Family Advocates shall represent the youth and family perspective in committees responsible for developing policy and procedures. The Advocates shall:
 - serve on committees, subcommittees and task groups as assigned; and
 - recommend policy based on identification of problems or opportunities for improvement in youth and family care issues.
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**Responsibilities
(continued)**

3. The Youth and Family Advocates shall monitor the quality and effectiveness of the communication of youth rights to youth and their families. The Advocates shall:
 - assist in the formatting and distribution of written materials explaining youth rights in collaboration with those Hospital departments responsible for distribution; and
 - assist the units to improve communication and procedures involving youth rights.
 4. The Youth and Family Advocates shall act as a resource for youths, staff and families concerning youth and family rights.
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