Importance of Family Councils

- Residents speak for themselves.
- Residents help to choose services provided.
- Residents invite speakers of their choice.
- Residents can identify concerns and problem-solve.
- Residents can be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves.
- Residents have the right to meet in privacy if they choose, without the interference of the facility staff.
- The Resident Council has the right to recommend changes regarding facility policies.
- If the facility does not already have a Resident Council, it must try to establish one.

Questions Please Contact Us

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Carson City Administrative Office 3416 Goni Road, Suite D Carson City, Nevada 89706 775-687-4210 775-687-4264 (Fax)

Las Vegas Regional Office 1860 East Sahara Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702-486-3545 702-486-3572 (Fax)

Reno Regional Office 9670 Gateway Drive Suite 200 Reno, Nevada 89521 775-687-0800 775-688-2969 (Fax)

Elko Regional Office 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104 Elko, Nevada 89801 775-738-1966 775-753-8543 (Fax)

To report concerns in a long term care facility please call: 1-888-282-1155

www.adsd.nv.gov

FAMILY COUNCILS

An Informational Brochure From the Nevada Long Term Care Ombudsman Program



State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division

What is Resident Council?

An organization within the Nursing Home or Assisted Living Facility whose members are residents of the home. All residents in the facility can participate.

- A Resident Council is supported by Federal and state regulations.
- Resident Councils are self-governing.
- Residents are in control of the planning and running of the meeting as much as possible.
- Staff member will act as liaison.
- A staff member should only give as much assistance as the residents need or request.
- The facility must provide residents with a private meeting space.

Why have a Resident Council?

- Promote independence and personal growth.
- Provide opportunity for new relationships.
- Allows residents to speak out.
- Allows the resident to help the facility run more smoothly.
- Allows residents to play an active role in decisions made about their home life, such as activities, food, and personal care.
- Residents can promote and protect the rights of all residents in the facility.



Effective Resident Councils Can:

- Improve communication between staff and residents.
- Serve as a source of new ideas and help identify quality of life issues.
- Help individual residents speak up in a collective voice for improvement.
- Assist the facility in planning activities and events.
- Promote friendship between residents through regular meetings.
- Improve the atmosphere of the facility.
- Council always recruits new members.