

## **CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PATIENT INFORMATION**

The confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records maintained by this program is protected by federal law and regulations. Generally, the program may not say to a person outside the program that a patient attends the program, or disclose any information identifying a patient as an alcohol or drug abuser, unless:

- 1) The patient consents in writing, OR
- 2) The disclosure is allowed by a court order: OR
- 3) The disclosure is made to medical personnel in a medical emergency or to qualified personnel for research, audit, or program evaluation; OR
- 4) The patient commits or threatens to commit a crime either at the program or against any person who works for the program

Violation of the federal law and regulations by a program is a crime. Suspected violations may be reported to the United States Attorney in the district where the violation occurs.

Federal law and regulations do not protect any information about suspected child abuse or neglect from being reported under state law to appropriate state or local authorities.

(See 42 U.S.C. S 290dd-2 for federal law and 42 C.F.R. Part 2 federal regulations governing Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records)