



## Informed Consent and Decision-Making

*As you consent to treatment and services at LVF, we want to exchange as much information as possible with you to help you make decisions about your mental health care needs and goals.*

### **Lenape Valley Foundation (LVF) is a mental health treatment and services provider.**

Our programs include evaluation and/or assessment, follow-up recommendation(s), and service interventions that are all generally accepted standards of practice. Staff has received a combination of supervision, training, education, or licensure to perform in their respective service roles.

### **You have freedom to choose your mental health provider. LVF services are voluntary.**

There are other providers and organizations with services similar to ours. Information about these alternatives is available through our Information & Referral Department and/or through your funding source. Within limitations of your funding source, you have freedom to choose where to receive services.

### **LVF supports and encourages you to make informed decisions about your care.**

LVF staff intends to partner with you to identify mental health and other concerns in your life, to explore and identify strategies for achieving the outcomes you desire, and to support you in these endeavors. Two-way communication is critical in this process. We encourage you to share all information necessary to accurately understand your situation so that we can consider sound recommendations. At the same time, LVF staff will share as much information as you need about the following:

- Your mental health condition and its impact on your life
- Treatment and service options available (here at LVF and elsewhere) to address your mental health and other concerns and what each option involves
- Risks and benefits of each treatment and/or service option
- Risks and benefits of receiving no treatment and/or service at all

Decisions made by you, considering all information at-hand, is the beginning of successful care experience at LVF.

#### **Prescription of Medication (Special Note)**

Discussions with LVF prescribing staff should include information sharing as listed above, plus specifics regarding:

- Reason and purpose for medication recommended
- Most common side effects of the medication
- Side effects that should be reported immediately to the prescriber
- Possible food and drug interactions that may occur while taking the medication
- Your medical conditions
- Medications you take, prescription and over-the-counter
- Your food and drug allergies
- Current or planned pregnancy or breast-feeding