

WEST ISLAND CITIZEN ADVOCACY

Eligibility and Exclusion Policy

December 2011

Eligibility Criteria

A person wishing to participate as a protégé in West Island Citizen Advocacy (“WICA”) programs must:

- have a handicap or be disadvantaged;
- be interested in having a volunteer citizen advocate to help;
- accept that is not always possible to find a volunteer citizen advocate;
- be free of aggressive or violent behaviors;
- be referred by a public agency, a community group or self-referred;
- be free of drug or alcohol abuse;
- show respect for the programs offered by WICA, its staff, its volunteers and any other WICA associates.

A person wishing to participate as an advocate in WICA programs must:

- be free of aggressive or violent behaviors;
- be free of drug or alcohol abuse;
- be respectful of the programs offered by WICA, its staff, its volunteers and any other WICA associates;
- be interested in becoming a volunteer citizen advocate to help others;
- be willing to submit to a police check.

Exclusion Criteria

A prospective protégé or a protégé may be refused services or have services suspended from WICA programs if:

- he or she has a history of, or exhibits behaviors of, violence, drug or alcohol abuse or sexual harassment;
- the level of intervention required does not fit the skill sets of the staff, the coaches and/or the volunteer advocates;
- the goals of the particular project or program are not agreed to by the prospective protégé or the protégé;
- the structure of the particular project or program is not accepted by the prospective protégé or the protégé;

- in the judgment of any WICA representative, a WICA service is not useful to the prospective protégé or the protégé, or does not meet his needs;
- a protégé does not respect the by-laws, mission and working guidelines of WICA;
- a protégé does not respect the rights of others;
- there is a legal dispute between WICA and the prospective protégé or the protégé.

A prospective volunteer advocate or a volunteer advocate may be refused services or have services suspended from WICA programs if:

- he or she has a history of, or exhibits behaviors of, violence, drug or alcohol abuse or sexual harassment;
- the goals of the particular project or program are not agreed to by the prospective volunteer advocate or the volunteer advocate;
- the structure of the particular project or program is not accepted by the prospective volunteer advocate or the volunteer advocate;
- there is a legal dispute between WICA and the prospective volunteer advocate or the volunteer advocate;
- a volunteer advocate does not respect the by-laws, mission and working guidelines of WICA;
- a volunteer advocate does not respect the rights of others;
- if the prospective volunteer advocate does not pass the police check.