Youth in residential treatment, in Ohio, for mental health are protected under the rights of Disability Rights Ohio (2018).

- 1 in 5 youth have a diagnosable mental health disorder, nationwide.
- Recovery and resilience can be compromised because of inadequate care.
- Residential facilities for psychiatric care are the most restrictive, most expensive, long-term care options for youth.

**PURPOSE**

- Mixed methods study
- Study focuses on finding a baseline of the understanding of client rights, education on rights, and visible implications of client rights established through Disability Rights Ohio
- After education, follow up to determine if there was a change in the previously collected baseline was administered
- Study is inductive, using a pre and post test, and included a deductive component formed off of observations
- Study utilized nominal measurements of gender, age, race, and unit number.
- Responses collected with ordinal measurements of never, sometimes, and always, represented by a 1-3 rating in response to pre and post test questions

**METHODS**

- **Participants:** co-ed youth, ages 5-16, clients of mental health residential treatment
- **Setting:** St. Joseph Orphanage, Altercrest, CSU in Cincinnati, Ohio
- **Sample Size = 24**
- **Instrument:** Pre and post test 26-item survey to assess understanding of client rights comprised of the same questions

**RESULTS/CONCLUSIONS**

1. Do clients know their rights through Disability Rights Ohio?
   - Before educational measures? Understanding was lacking
   - After? Clients understanding improved significantly

2. Are the client rights being respected by staff and the program?
   - For the most part, some negative reports and incidents did occur

3. Will education of client rights effect the productivity and success of treatment?
   - Per client report and observations, when their care and environment are meeting standards of their rights, better outcomes of treatment occurs

4. Will clients benefit from education of rights and be more empowered to stand up for their rights?
   - Based on findings and observation, empowerment and ability to stand up for themselves improved

**REFERENCES**

