

**SECTION:** Planning, Monitoring And Evaluation of Care

**SUBJECT: Mechanical Restraints**

**Policy No.:** 6.4.1

**Date:** March 2023

**Reviewed:** Annually

**Revised:**

### **Mechanical Restraints**

Red Roof Retreat does not support the use of a mechanical restraint as a common behavioural intervention. The following policy and procedures have been developed in accordance with the Child And Family Service Act and the Developmental Services Act.

#### **Definition**

Mechanical restraints should not be used for the purpose of influencing a child's behaviour and should only be used for therapeutic or non-behavioural purposes.

Personal Assistance Service Device or PASD is a device being used to assist a resident with hygiene, washing, dressing, grooming, eating, drinking, elimination, ambulation or positioning or any other routine activity of living. This could also include harnesses for special seating, seat belt buddies, devices used for moving paralyzed children, etc. It includes any device that the child cannot release themselves from.

#### **Policy**

Employees may only use a Mechanical Restraint as set out in the child's plan of treatment or plan for the use of a PASD, if they have received the necessary training, instruction, or education. Employees must sign off on the "Mechanical Restraint Training" authorization form after necessary training has been provided.

Employees will ensure that the use of mechanical restraints under this section is carried out in accordance with the following rules:

- Mechanical restraints shall not be used on a resident for the purposes of punishment or solely for the convenience of the service provider, foster parent or staff member who is providing the service. They are only to be used to assist the child in their activities of daily living. Mechanical restraints must be applied using the least amount of force that is necessary in the circumstances.

Employees will ensure that the resident being restrained by the use of mechanical restraints is monitored on a regular basis and in accordance with any instructions or recommendations provided in the child's plan of treatment or plan for the use of a PASD.

Mechanical restraints must be removed immediately upon the earliest of the following:

- When there is a risk that their use will endanger the health or safety of the resident.
- When the continued use of the mechanical restraints would no longer be authorized by the plan of treatment or plan for the use of a PASD.

Employees will ensure that mechanical restraints used under this section are:

- applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, if any;
- maintained in good condition in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, if any; and
- not altered except for adjustments made in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, if any.

#### **Documentation:**

Employees must document the reason for using a Mechanical Restraint in the Daily Communication Log as well as the Respite Daily Log for the child before the end of their shift.