



Dear Parent and/or Guardian,

Disability Rights Maine (DRM) is Maine's federally funded protection and advocacy agency (P & A). The DRM is a non-profit organization, independent of state and federal government. Our mission is to enhance and promote the equality, self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion of people with disabilities through education, strategic advocacy and legal intervention.

Some of the services DRM provides are:

- Information about rights and service systems
- Referrals to appropriate services
- Representation of individuals at meetings and hearings
- Legal representation of individuals or groups
- Training on rights and advocacy skills
- Working towards broad systems change.

Federal and state law permit DRM to provide outreach and monitor facilities for the purpose of ensuring that services, supports and assistance meet the needs of residents and are delivered in conformity with laws, regulations, rules and other standards regarding quality of care. Monitoring may include talking with residents, including minors and individuals under guardianship.

DRM is currently working with Spring Harbor Hospital (SHH). This letter is to provide you with information about our services and notification that a DRM advocate may talk with your child during the visit at SHH. During the monitoring visit, in addition to observing the conditions and services, DRM may provide information about rights and service systems, referrals to appropriate services, and training on rights and advocacy skills.

Our visit will be conducted in a manner that minimizes our interference with Spring Harbor Hospital programs and treatment, respects residents' privacy interests, and honors a resident's request to not participate.

If you would like to learn more about the Disability Rights Maine you please visit our website at [www.drme.org](http://www.drme.org). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach me at our toll-free number, (800) 452-1948, ext. 234, or email me at [kringrose@drme.org](mailto:kringrose@drme.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katrina".

Katrina Ringrose  
Advocate

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MAINE'S PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY AGENCY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES