1003. Recreation

A. The facility shall offer a regular and ongoing program of varied, meaningful activities designed to suit the interests and physical and cognitive capabilities of the residents who choose to participate. The facility shall provide recreational activities that provide stimulation (intellectual, physical); promote or enhance physical, mental, and/or emotional health; are age-appropriate; and are based on input from the residents and/or responsible party, as well as information obtained in the initial assessment. These activities shall include appropriate group activities and also activities for individuals with particular interests and needs.

B. Variety in planning may include some outdoor activities in suitable weather. Plans for activity involvement both on an individual and a group basis shall be developed for all residents. The planned activities may include community intergenerational programs, if applicable.

C. A staff member shall be designated as director of the resident activities program who shall be responsible for the development of the recreational program, to include responsibility for obtaining and maintaining recreational supplies. This staff member shall have sufficient time to provide and coordinate the activities program so that it fully meets the needs of the residents. Staff members responsible for providing and coordinating recreational activities for the residents shall have expertise or training and/or experience in individual and group activities. The director of resident activities shall hold at least one (1) of the following four (4) qualifications:

1. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a major area of concentration in recreation, creative arts therapy, therapeutic recreation, art, art education, psychology, sociology, or occupational therapy; or

2. A high school diploma and three (3) years of experience in resident activities in a health care facility; or

3. Served as the facility director of resident activities on the effective date of promulgation of this regulation, and has continuously served as activities director since that time; or

4. Holds current certification from the National Certification Council for Activity Professionals, or the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification.

D. The recreational supplies shall be adequate and shall be sufficient to accomplish the activities planned. Space, needed supplies, and equipment, e.g., books, magazines, newspapers, games, arts and crafts, computers, radio and television, shall be provided for all pertinent activities.
E. At least one (1) current month’s resident activity schedule shall be conspicuously posted in order for residents to be made aware of activities offered. This schedule shall include activities, dates, times, and locations. Residents may choose activities and schedules consistent with their interests and physical, mental, and psychosocial health. If a resident is unable to choose for him or herself, staff members shall encourage participation and assist when necessary.

F. Residents shall retain autonomous control over a wide range of activities and shall not be compelled to participate in any activity. Activities provided shall be in accordance with the ICP.

G. There shall be adequate staff to provide activity and recreational programs each day to achieve a meaningful experience for the residents. Opportunities for spontaneous activities shall be available to residents at any time. Community resources and volunteers may be utilized under the direction of the activities director to the fullest possible extent.

H. Religious services shall be considered resident activities. Every resident shall have the freedom to attend the church service of his or her choice.

I. Bedridden residents and those otherwise unable or unwilling to participate in group activities shall be provided activity to stimulate and promote their physical, spiritual, social, emotional, and intellectual health in accordance with the ICP.

J. Visiting by relatives and friends shall be encouraged, with minimum restrictions. Visiting hours shall be posted in accordance with facility policies and procedures. Reasonable exceptions to these hours shall be granted.