Guardianship and Alternatives Resources

Disability Rights Pennsylvania Intake Hotline
800-692-7443 x400 (voice) 877-375-7139 (TDD)
intake@disabilityrightspa.org (email)

Resources about supported decision-making:
- Center for Public Representation, https://supporteddecisions.org/
- ACLU Supported Decision-Making Library, https://www.aclu.org/other/supported-decision-making-resource-library

Resources about guardianship and alternatives to guardianship can be found on DRP’s website at https://www.disabilityrightspa.org/resources/#estate-planning-substitute-decision-making-guardianship

FAQ from the PA Medical Society is helpful about health care representatives, https://www.pamedsoc.org/practice-support/latest-news/tools-articles/Health-Care-Representatives

The provision of the PA Guardianship Statute:
(a) Duty of guardian of the person.—It shall be the duty of the guardian of the person to assert the rights and best interests of the incapacitated person. Expressed wishes and preferences of the incapacitated person shall be respected to the greatest possible extent. Where appropriate, the guardian shall assure and participate in the development of a plan of supportive services to meet the person's needs which explains how services will be obtained. The guardian shall also encourage the incapacitated person to participate to the maximum extent of his abilities in all decisions which affect him, to act on his own behalf whenever he is able to do so and to develop or regain, to the maximum extent possible, his capacity to manage his personal affairs.