

Special Needs Planning – Questions for Parents:

Imagine briefly that you are no longer able to care for your child due to illness or death. Will your child be able to maintain the quality of life they now enjoy?

Consider the following:

1. What are your primary concerns for your loved one's future?
 - A. Supervision and care support
 - B. Management of daily finances and bill payment
 - C. Management of shopping/meal planning/preparation
 - D. Management of medical care and appointments
 - E. Management of time – socialization and vocational
 - F. Living arrangements/future home situation
 - G. Management of the living space – cleaning/organization
 - H. Other specific quality of life considerations
2. What is your vision for family involvement in your loved one's future? What role will you and/or successor family members play? How often will you or someone else visit?
3. Do you have a written plan ("Memo of Intent") that describes your child and what you want for them in the future?
4. Do you understand eligibility requirements for Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, and other public benefits programs/ services that may be available? Have you applied/planned to apply for your child to receive them?
5. What family resources do you have available to supplement these benefits?
6. Do you have a personalized Supplemental/Special Needs Trust ("SNT") to receive and manage current and future resources for your child?
7. Have you funded the SNT to ensure the care and quality of life you want for your child?
8. Does your child have a guardian and/or conservator, or are there appropriate valid Power of Attorney documents in place for health care and financial decisions?
9. Do you have a Will that says who would be your child's guardian should something happen to you?

It's never too soon or too late to plan. The question for most parents is where to even start? Contact us to learn more about planning for your child's future. We're here to help you plan for your child's quality of life and achieve peace of mind.