Finding the Right Fit: Decision-Making Supports and Guardianship

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Elder Justice INITIATIVE

- Want to help a loved one make decisions? Do you or someone you know need help paying bills, juggling appointments, and managing life?
- Do you have a court-appointed guardian? Do you serve as a guardian for a friend or loved one?
- As a professional, do you look for ways to explain to your clients complicated concepts such as supported decision-making, power of attorney, and guardianship?

Finding the Right Fit: Decision-Making Supports and Guardianship can help. This interactive, user-friendly **online training** provides information and guidance on supports for decision-making. Learn about:

- Supporting someone to make decisions;
- Legal options such as power of attorney, advance directive, and guardianship; and
- Serving as a guardian.

Learn from realistic scenarios:

- Sam, an adult with an intellectual disability, wants to make his own decisions. His parents are worried about his health and safety. How can Sam and his parents work together?
- Jimmy's mental illness contributed to his financial troubles. His sister has always supported him in times of crisis. If Jimmy has a mental health crisis, what legal options would allow his sister to manage his money?
- Maria, who had a stroke, cannot communicate. She did not have advance care planning documents like a power of attorney. How can her brother make sure her bills are paid and she is getting the best medical treatment?

Balancing Values. Finding the Right Fit is about:

- Protecting the rights of people to make their own decisions;
- Focusing on what the person needs and wants;
- Considering guardianship only if other options won't work; and
- Making sure every form of decision-making assistance comes without the intention to influence, take advantage, or harm.

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