

LIFEWORKS CONNECTS

Understanding Guardianship and Supported Decision Making: Resources

Thank you for attending our first Lifeworks Connects event. The notes below reflect both the panel discussion and questions asked during the event. If we are missing something – and we might be – please contact giving@lifeworks.org and we'll try to find a helpful resource for you!

Some Definitions:

1. A **guardian** is appointed by the court to make the **personal decisions** for the person subject to guardianship. The guardian has authority to make decisions on behalf of the protected person about such things as where to live, medical decisions, training and education, etc. (mncourts.gov)
2. **Supported decision-making** is often defined as supports and services that help an adult with a disability make his or her own decisions by relying on trusted friends, family members, professionals, and others. (americanbar.org)

Helpful Links:

- [Disability Hub MN](#)
- [Volunteers of America](#) guardianship resources
- [The Arc Minnesota](#)
- [Minnesota Disability Law Center](#) (see pages 48-51)
- [Minnesota Association for Guardianship & Conservatorship](#)
- National Council on Disability – [Turning Rights into Reality](#): How Guardianship and Alternatives Impact the Autonomy of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- [Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota](#)
- Center for Disability Rights – [Policy Position: Adult Guardianship](#)
- [The Jenny Hatch Justice Project](#)
- Jonathan Martinis, [Supported Decision-Making Presentation](#)
- Listen to [this presentation](#) by Jonathan Martinis
- WINGS MN website: <http://wingsmn.org/supported-decision-making/>
- Finding an attorney:

- [Minnesota Lawyer Referral and Information Service](#) has referral staff who can help you find a lawyer who will provide a 30 minute consultation (they may charge a small fee for this service). Also: an online “Self-Referral” service available 24/7. Sponsored by the Hennepin County and Ramsey County Bar Associations. (Found at <https://www.mncourts.gov/Help-Topics/Find-a-Lawyer.aspx>)
- [Thiel, Anderson & Kukla, P.L.L.P](#) – Firm of panelist Joe Kukla. The firm is also a Lifeworks supporter
- [Minnesota State Attorney General](#) information on guardianship
- [Bill of Rights](#) for person under guardianship
- [Powers and Duties of a Guardian](#) (includes the “ten powers” discussed in the webinar)
- [Advanced directives with Supported Decision Making](#)
- [Limited Power of Attorney](#)

Lifeworks will email you a link to the video of the Lifeworks Connect presentation during the week of March 21. Thank you for your patience.

Have other resources? Need additional support?
We welcome your ideas and questions at giving@lifeworks.org