



Winter 2024 Newsletter

From the Director

I can't believe 2024 is already here! As you know, 2023 brought changes to the Kentucky Guardianship Association. 2024 promises more to come!

First, I want to invite you to our first Brown Bag Network meeting. This will be an on-line event where for about 15 minutes there will be a presenter, talking about areas of interest to our members. The rest of the time will be devoted to discussion of the topic of the day and/or issues attendees are experiencing and would like input from others. I want to keep these to 30-minute sessions with the option to stay on longer if participants would like to keep the discussion going.

January's session will be about Hart Supported Living grants (HSL) with Rachel Phelan. If you are unfamiliar with HSL, I highly encourage you to attend. The grants are a terrific way to fund unmet needs for people with disabilities of all ages. Rachel will review the program and share how to apply for the grants.

The January session will be **Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 12:00 pm EST**. If you want to attend, please register with me via email at director@kyguardianship.org and I will send you the link for the meeting. Hope to see you there! Tentatively, the February topic will be the PACE program for seniors (time and date TBA).

In the spotlight for this newsletter is a project I learned about recently. Becky Smith and I met with the leaders of the project and feel this would be a good process to implement in Kentucky. To take a deeper dive into the project go here: <https://www.eldercaringcoordination.com/> - I'd love to get your feedback!

~ Robin Boggs

P.S. Don't forget to renew your membership!



Spotlight

What is Eldercaring Coordination?

Eldercaring coordination is a court ordered dispute resolution process during which an eldercaring coordinator assists families to resolve disputes with high conflict levels that impact the elder's autonomy and safety.

Eldercaring Coordination Can Help

A court orders eldercaring coordination when it wants to ensure an aging person is safe and well cared for but believes the family conflicts may be jeopardizing those goals. The court may refer a family for eldercaring coordination when there are:

- Multiple court motions raising non-legal issues or competing petitions for appointment as guardian or conservator
- Concerns about an aging person's care and safety
- Imbalances of power where only some parties have legal representation
- Frequent disputes about unmeasurable or unsubstantiated issues
- Possessive or controlling behaviors toward the aging person
- When mediation has not been effective

Here's a link to a short video explaining the process:

https://youtu.be/LQdPscMcm4?si=TzKHrgl-rit_l41D

"I had learned about Eldercaring Coordination at a conference, but became a believer after using a coordinator during a difficult guardianship in 2018. As a thirty year veteran of guardianship services, I was amazed at how much helpful information we received from a family member who had financially exploited the ward due to the gentle and supportive nature of our coordinator. Since then, I have requested eldercaring coordination twice in other guardianship cases."

– President of MonarchCare, Florida

"Eldercaring coordination saved that man's life!"

– Florida Judge

"Eldercaring coordination offers a forum for parties to learn information where discovery proceedings in litigation could slow down resolution and flair up tempers and suspicion. Attorneys and their clients work within the process by sharing information and using resources beyond courtroom procedure."

– Attorney

"Eldercaring coordination maintains the focus of the family on the aging person, rather than their disputes."

– Florida Attorney

To discover much more detail, go here:

<https://www.eldercaringcoordination.com/>

Special Needs Pooled Trusts

Here's a list of some things SNPT funds have been used for in the last few months:

- Trips have been very popular, destinations include a lot of places in Florida, including Disney World, and 2 trips to California, one for San Diego and one to Disneyland along with a lot of trips to Gatlinburg, and Santa Claus Indiana.
- Cincinnati Bengals tickets for 1 game, Gaming systems and head sets
- Northern KY season Basketball tickets, phones, I pads, and tablets
- Tickets to Jelly Roll concert in Cincinnati and a trip to Evansville Indiana to a wrestling event
- Softball equipment for a client that plays on a team, and a YMCA membership
- Courier Journal newspaper subscription
- Nuts of the month for a one year membership. We have done for 2 years now.

