PLAN of AZ

Planned **L**ifetime **A**ssistance **N**etwork

Planning • Trust • Care

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Who is PLAN of Arizona

OUR MISSION

To provide planning, trust management and service coordination for individuals with special needs throughout Arizona.

OUR VISION

Our services result in peace of mind for families who wish to secure the future for loved ones and ensure that quality of life and support continues when the family is no longer able to be there— both now and in the future.

What We Do

- Life Planning
- Special Needs Trusts
- Support Coordination

Why Plan for the Future

- To enable adults with disabilities to live their lives safely, securely and as independent as possible.
- To give their parents or siblings, some respite from the demands of daily care.
- To ensure that the individual will be provided for - financially, legally, emotionally and socially - for a lifetime.
- To help take some of the burden off the case managers who get inundated with requests that they cannot help with.

What Happens When There is No Plan

- Many parents assume the Case Managers will take over.
- Case Managers become overloaded with calls that they are not able to help with.
- They can't do their job well if they have too much on their plate.

What Goes Into a Plan?

- PLAN does what parents do – providing structure, guidance, support and negotiation of services.
- A future-care plan helps families ensure the continuation of care for a loved one with developmental disabilities or a mental illness.
- PLAN helps families identify a person (could be PLAN of AZ) who will act in their place when the need arises.
- Future-care planning ensures quality of life for family members with disabilities.

The Rewards of Planning

Piece of mind is the most obvious reward. For loved ones with developmental disabilities or mental illness, a future-care plan means the promise of continuing quality of life, the opportunity to live to their fullest potential, and security of knowing they are protected.

What is a Special Needs Trust

The essential purpose of a special needs trust is usually to improve the quality of an individual's life without disqualifying him or her from eligibility for public benefits.

Two Types of Trusts

- **"Self-Settled" Special Needs Trust**
  - Aka 1st Party Special Needs Trust
  - These are established by the beneficiary (or someone acting on his or her behalf) with the beneficiaries funds for the purpose of retaining or obtaining eligibility for public benefits.

- **"Third Party" Special Needs Trust**
  - Established by someone other than the person with disabilities (usually, but not always, a parent) with assets that never belonged to the beneficiary.

"Third Party" Special Needs Trust

- Can be established by any third party (usually parents) during their lifetime or deferred until funds are distributed under an estate plan.
- Other family and friends may also contribute to it.
- Protected from creditors and lien holders.
- Trustor may choose the remainder beneficiaries.
- May be revocable or irrevocable.
- Beneficiary does not have the legal authority to revoke the Trust or direct the use of the Trust assets.
- Distributions are made at the discretion of PLAN. Funds cannot be available or accessible to the Beneficiary.
- The funds are to be used to "supplement not supplant" any government benefits. They generally cannot be used for food or shelter, or for anything that can be used to obtain food or shelter.

How 3rd party Trusts can be Funded

- 3rd Party Special Needs Trusts are simple to fund. They can fund upon the parents death with a life insurance policy or through a family trust or will

- Or they can be funded with a minimum deposit of $5,000 while the parents are still living so we can start providing services and take the pressure off the aging parents.

"First Party" Special Needs Trust

- Is established with the beneficiaries own money.
- Protected from creditors and lien holders.
- Medicaid payback provision.
- Irrevocable.
- Distributions are made at the discretion of PLAN. Funds cannot be available or accessible to the Beneficiary.
- The funds are to be used to "supplement not supplant" any government benefits. They generally cannot be used for food, shelter or utilities, or for anything that can be used to obtain food or shelter.

How 1st party Trusts are Funded

- 1st Party Special Needs Trusts are funded by the beneficiaries own assets.
- Funding usually comes from an inheritance, some type of settlement or SSI back payment.
- Can be funded with a minimum deposit of $5,000

Pay-As-You-Go Services

If a family already has a trust in place, they can contract with PLAN to provide services on a pay-as-you-go basis. They can also use this service if the trust is to be funded at a later date.

Types of services available (for trust clients or on a pay-as-you-go basis):

- Advocacy
- Bill Pay
- Benefit Analysis
- Companionship
- Transportation
- Daily Assistance
- Housing options
- Moving
- Personal Shopping
- Monitoring
- Scheduling Dr. Appointments

First International Bank and Trust

- PLANS corporate trustee since 2010
- Provides prudent and diversified portfolio management for PLAN of Arizona clients.
- They offer five investment allocation options for families to choose from.