

## Why do people choose PLAN/NJ to provide life-planning services?

“Some of the difficult situations in which people with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges find themselves could be avoided by specific and purposeful planning with professional support.”

- an attorney specializing in disability law

“The PLAN/NJ advocate visits David here at the group home and takes him out every week, just like his mom used to.”

- a group home care giver

“It did not make sense for any of my other adult children to be my daughter’s guardian. They all live so far away and don’t know ‘the system.’ PLAN/NJ staff consults with them, and PLAN/NJ is right here to take care of all the details.”

- parent of a PLAN/NJ client

“The responsibility of being trustee for a person with a mental health challenge is far more difficult than I had imagined. PLAN/NJ guides me about my nephew’s needs and the resources available to him.”

- aunt of PLAN/NJ client

“I just want to be a sister - not a caretaker or guardian. I am relieved that I don’t have to be everything to her.”

- sibling of a PLAN/NJ client

## PLAN/NJ is affiliated with:

- The National PLAN Alliance
- The National Guardianship Association
- The New Jersey Guardianship Association
- NAMI New Jersey

## PLAN/NJ receives resources from:

- The New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency
- The NJ State Bar Foundation
- The Community Foundation of NJ
- Donors
- Private Foundations



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# Who will care for my loved one when I am gone?

**Lifetime advocacy for people with differing abilities**



**plan|NJ**

**Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of NJ**

## About the future...

Many families whose lives are affected by disabilities or mental health challenges worry about the future. Who will care for my loved one when I am gone? Will he have the resources and services he needs? Who will look out for her? Who will help her make important medical, treatment and life decisions?

The answer is  
**PLAN/NJ**

a not-for-profit organization



**plan|NJ**

**Planned Lifetime Assistance  
Network of NJ**

## What is PLAN/NJ?

**PLAN/NJ** is a unique, not-for-profit agency that provides solutions to families concerned about the future lifetime support and quality of life of a loved one with a significant disability or mental health challenge.

## What does PLAN/NJ do?

**PLAN/NJ** provides individualized planning services. Through the development of a LifePLAN, trained **PLAN/NJ** professionals help families ask and answer difficult questions about the future. This personalized planning process allows families to consider the financial, legal and social resources their loved one with a disability or mental health challenge may need in the future. The LifePlan can be updated on a regular basis or as circumstances change for you or your loved one.

**PLAN/NJ** provides direct services and supports to its clients when family members cannot manage alone, or are not available. These services and supports can relieve family members and close friends of overwhelming responsibilities.

The cost of **PLAN/NJ's** services are within the reach of most families. Financial assistance via scholarship may apply. Please call for details.

## PLAN/NJ can offer:

- **Home visit monitoring:** someone to be there when the family can not maintain vigilant watch over the client's living, learning, working, and health care environments.
- **Advocacy:** to ensure that the system is fully meeting the needs of the client and that the client is receiving the benefits to which he or she is entitled.
- **Guardianship:** to assume responsibility as surrogate decision maker for clients who have been deemed in need of a guardian.
- **Coaching and guidance:** to help the client cope with life's demands and responsibilities.
- **LifePLANS - a permanent repository:** to record and maintain medical information, and family and individual data and wishes.
- **Pooled and Private Trust administration:** as trustee, **PLAN/NJ** can ensure that resources from a special needs trust are used for the individual's benefit. A special needs trust is a tool by which family members can provide funds for the services described in the LifePLAN, as well as other life-enhancing amenities to improve the comfort and ease of living.
- **Benefits administration:** as representative payee, **PLAN/NJ** uses the individual's government benefits and funds to meet basic needs, such as food, clothing and shelter, in accordance with the law.