

# Ages and Stages: PLAN/NJ Protects and Promotes Randy's Community Living



PLAN/NJ is proud to serve people with intellectual, developmental, psychiatric and physical disabilities. Each year, we share a story of a person who has benefited from a care coordination or Guardianship relationship with PLAN/NJ. This year's story is about Randy, who for decades has had no relatives to oversee his care. We hope his story illustrates the many ways he thrives today, thanks to PLAN/NJ's compassionate oversight and guidance toward self-determination, which is his right. Please consider a gift to help PLAN/NJ support more people with disabilities and their families. Make an online donation at [www.plannj.org/donate](http://www.plannj.org/donate) or complete the form below and mail it in with a check for your donation.

*A haircut, a cup of coffee and a breakfast sandwich -- these are little things that most people take for granted. But for Randy, these small amenities mean the world to him. The opportunity to take walks in the neighborhood and make choices of his own are the small daily activities that make his life "happen."*

*PLAN/NJ was introduced to Randy several years ago at a state psychiatric hospital when we were providing another resident with home visit monitoring services. An on-site social worker knew that Randy, a friendly, soft-spoken man, was without any immediate family members, and asked if we could help him. With a schizophrenia diagnosis, he had lived at this facility for more than 40 years. He needed a legal guardian – an advocate to help him live in the least restrictive environment possible -- while remaining protected and kept from harm. PLAN/NJ stepped in because we knew he was capable of more, and could lead a more satisfying life.*

*Once PLAN/NJ was appointed as Randy's legal Guardian, we advocated for him to leave the hospital and move into a home that was better suited to his needs, where he could live with adequate supports and be part of his community. At his new home, he enjoys the freedom to take walks, eat in restaurants and participate in group activities. He is thriving and is well-liked by his peers and staff. He is able to go on outings with his Service Coordinator to get a haircut, have his nails trimmed, or have coffee and a breakfast sandwich. She makes sure he continues to receive comprehensive medical care, and that his living arrangements remain a safe and well-suited place for him to live. Oversight and having someone to call in an emergency is often essential to an individual's sense of safety and security, and we provide Randy the assurance that his individualized needs will be met, his preferences will be observed, and that he continues to feel protected from danger. PLAN/NJ has been his guardian for years and he has never returned to the psychiatric hospital. Randy's continued happiness comes from the events that fill his daily life, and we are thrilled we can help him in these ways.*

PLAN/NJ provides care coordination and fiduciary services for nearly 1,000 people with disabilities in New Jersey. We serve many individuals with significant disabilities with vital services and supports at no cost because they are in need. Please consider an end-of-year gift to PLAN/NJ to help us serve more people with significant disabilities and their families.  
**Thank you for your contribution!**

**YES!** I want to help PLAN/NJ support individuals with significant disabilities like Randy who are in need of the legal, fiduciary or life-long care coordination, and self-determination assistance they deserve.

- I would like to learn more about establishing a bequest
- I have included PLAN/NJ in my estate plans
- I would consider including PLAN/NJ in my estate plans
- I am interested in establishing a tax-free IRA rollover

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

\$150  \$100  \$50  \$35 Other \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of OR  In Memory of (please check one and print name): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your checks payable to PLAN/NJ and place them in the mail to PLAN/NJ, P.O. Box 547, Loeser Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876-0547. We also accept online donations through PayPal. Visit [plannj.org](http://plannj.org) and click on 'Donate'. We reserve the right to publish donor names in the PLAN/NJ Annual Report unless otherwise requested. If you would like your name removed from the donor list, please check here: \_\_\_\_\_