

Why Do People Choose PLAN/NJ?

“We rest easier knowing when we are no longer here there is a plan to assist her in day-to-day life and long-term stability and well-being.” — *Parent*

“My daughter’s siblings live far away and don’t know ‘the system.’ In the future, PLAN/NJ staff will support them as her Guardians, be their eyes and ears, and give them the expert guidance they need to be legally responsible for her well-being.” — *Parent*

“The leadership of PLAN/NJ is compassionate. When we are gone, we need to know that we will have someone who cares about our child with disabilities, and PLAN/NJ cares.” — *Certified Elder Law Attorney*

“It is complicated to maintain my sister’s public benefits and a relief to have the experts at PLAN/NJ do it for me. Because they are a non-profit corporate trustee, they can ensure that her Special Needs Trust funds are used to enhance her life. This is their mission and expertise.” — *Sister*

“The PLAN/NJ advocate visits David here at the group home and takes him out every month, just like his mom used to.” — *Group Home Caregiver*

“I am my nephew’s Guardian, but the responsibility of being Trustee is far more difficult than I had imagined, so PLAN/NJ guides me about his needs and the resources available to him.” — *Aunt*

Key Affiliate Organizations

- The National PLAN Alliance
- The National Guardianship Association
- NAMI New Jersey (state chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Supporters

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



Support for this publication is made possible by a grant from the New Jersey State Bar Foundation.

For more information, contact:



plan|NJ

Lifetime Support for People
with Disabilities

Loeser Avenue, P.O. Box 547
Somerville, NJ 08876-0547
Phone: (908) 575-8300
Fax: (908) 927-9010
Email: info@plannj.org
Web: www.plannj.org



“WHO WILL CARE FOR MY LOVED ONE WHEN I’M GONE?”

Lifetime Support for People with Disabilities



plan|NJ

Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of New Jersey



If your child, sibling, relative or other loved one is affected by disabilities or mental health challenges, you worry about their future. Who will:

- **provide care for them?**
- **offer them needed services and resources?**
- **look out for them?**
- **help them make important life decisions?**

**The answer is
Planned Lifetime
Assistance Network
of New Jersey, Inc.
(PLAN/NJ)**

What Is PLAN/NJ?

PLAN/NJ is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization supporting individuals with disabilities in New Jersey and their families. To enhance quality of life, we offer compassionate, comprehensive and person-centered care coordination as well as guided oversight of financial affairs. Our mission is to help families answer the question, “Who will care for my loved one when I’m gone?”

What Does PLAN/NJ Do?

PLAN/NJ provides a comprehensive array of support options for individuals who live with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities, as well as mental illness, traumatic brain injury and other challenges.

Our services enhance quality of life for individuals with disabilities and provide peace of mind for their families. A personalized planning process allows families to consider the financial, legal, living and social resources their loved one may need in the future. We provide fiduciary, advocacy, guardianship and life planning supports when family members cannot manage alone, or are not available. These services and supports can relieve family members and close friends of overwhelming responsibilities.

We follow a ‘whole person’ approach to ensure that individuals are never without the care, comfort, enjoyment, and engagement in life that is their right. Fees for service are within reach for most families, and financial assistance may be available.

Person-Centered Services

Advocacy: Assessment and intervention to ensure that an individual is receiving all public benefits to which they are entitled and that the support system in place is fully meeting their needs.

Guardianship: Court-appointed responsibility as surrogate decision-maker to provide compassionate oversight for people deemed to be in need of this protective service.

Home Visit Monitoring: Providing monthly on-site visits to help assess living, learning, working, and health care environments; transportation to vital appointments, shopping and activities in the community; and assurance that their rights to self-determination are being met.

Life Planning Consultation: Forming a support circle of family members, social service providers, attorneys, financial advisors, and trust administrators to develop and implement a LifePLAN. We maintain this permanent repository of all medical and housing information, family and individual data, and interests, hopes and dreams. This specific plan of action maintains an individual’s necessary services while enhancing quality of life; protecting them from abuse, neglect and homelessness; and ensuring a lifetime of support.

Public Benefits Administration: Managing an individual’s government benefits and funds as representative payee for Social Security benefits to ensure their basic needs are met, helping to budget and pay for food, clothing, housing and other essentials in accordance with the law.

Trust Administration: Ensuring that resources from a private or pooled special needs trust are used for the individual’s benefit. The trust allows family members to provide for services described in the individual’s LifePLAN that may fall outside the scope of public benefits, as well as for life-enhancing amenities to improve the individual’s comfort and ease of living.