

# WHY DO FAMILIES 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*

“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 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.” — *Parent*

“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*

“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*

“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*

Lifetime Advocacy for People with Differing Abilities

## KEY AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

- Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities
- NAMI New Jersey
- The National Guardianship Association
- The National PLAN Alliance

## SUPPORTERS

- The Community Foundation of New Jersey
- The New Jersey State Bar Foundation
- Individual Donors
- Private Foundations



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Helping families of people with disabilities answer the question:

“Who will care for my loved one when I’m gone?”



PLAN|NJ

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When our loved one is affected by a disability or mental health challenge, we worry about the future. PLAN|NJ can provide you with greater peace of mind when you know your loved one will thrive.

We will:

- advocate for needed services and resources
- maintain public benefits
- celebrate milestones
- support decision-making on important life choices



# 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:** Assessing and intervening 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:** Providing compassionate oversight with court-appointed responsibility for people deemed to be in need of this protective service.

**HOME VISIT MONITORING:** Making monthly on-site visits to 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, interests, hopes and dreams. This specific plan of action maintains an individual’s necessary services, enhances quality of life, protects them from abuse, neglect and homelessness and ensures 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 by 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 life-enhancing amenities to improve the individual’s comfort and ease of living.