

Healthcare Access After 18: Guardian Advocacy and Alternatives for Youth with Disabilities

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FLORIDA LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

HEALTHCARE ACCESS AFTER 18

- Advocates should educate families about the importance of assisting children to transition into adulthood as it relates to their healthcare access.
- As children transition into adulthood, ensuring continuity of healthcare access is crucial to assist young adults to:
 - Maintain health insurance coverage
 - Manage their health needs
 - Work closely and in cooperation with their health providers
 - Navigating Health Systems



GUARDIAN ADVOCACY AND LESS RESTRICTIVE ALTERNATIVES

Important Considerations

- Legal Competence to execute legal documents
- Level of Support Needed
- Whether less restrictive alternatives can address the level of support the individual needs and minimize risk of exploitation
- Availability of an appropriate agent, surrogate or guardian advocate

LESS RESTRICTIVE ALTERNATIVES

1.

**Designation
of Healthcare
Surrogate**



2.

**Durable
Power of
Attorney**



3.

**Supported
Decision
Making
Agreement**



4.

**Social Security
Representative
Payee**



5.

**Other Options:
Information
Release Forms
Joint Assets
Trusts (SNTs)**





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1-800-436-6001

We can Assist with:

- **Medicaid, Kidcare and related public benefits enrollment for pregnant women and families with children**
- **Issues with denials of applications, services coverage**
- **Issues affecting health access**
- **Guardian Advocacies and less restrictive alternatives for children transitioning into adulthood (Ages 17-21)**