

Guardianship / Trusteeship

Parents and others supporting individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, FASD need to understand that guardianship may not be necessary and should not be automatically considered or sought.

First individuals and families should consider the concept of supported decision-making, which will be explained during the FASD Forum.

Guardianship should be a last resort and only to the minimal degree required. Guardianship must always be directed at assisting the person to make decisions for themselves as much as possible and honoring the desires and interests of the person, again as much as possible.

When an individual with FASD cannot manage their own financial resources, then in most circumstances an informal or small "t" trusteeship arrangement is all that will be necessary.

Formal trusteeship is a legal process typically only necessary when property and large sums of money are involved. Trustees should also apply the concept of supported decision-making. In addition this session will discuss the role of public and private guardians, public and private trustees and informal and formal networks.