Volunteer Guardian Services

Note of the County Aging & Disability Resource Center

### Volunteer! Make a Difference.

Guardians play an important role in the lives of elderly or disabled individuals who are unable to make important life decisions and who don't have family to help them.

Volunteer guardians serve as legal decision makers and advocates in health, welfare and/or financial issues. They provide protection and support for vulnerable people.

As little as one hour a month can positively impact the quality of life of an adult at-risk.

#### Volunteer Guardians are:

Volunteer legal guardians are court-appointed upon recommendation of the Volunteer Guardian Program and Adult Protective Services.

- anyone age 21 and older
- people just LIKE YOU!
- able to pass a criminal background check

The program provides training, support, and on-going assistance for the volunteer guardian to successfully perform their responsibilities.

#### Volunteer Guardians are not:

- hands-on caregivers
- live-in caregivers

# Types of Guardians

**A Guardian of the Person** makes decisions regarding the individual which may include:

- personal living and health care decisions, ensuring the person has adequate shelter, food, clothing and medical care
- coordinating treatment services as part of a team
- advocating for the individual's best interests
- filing an annual report to the court

A Guardian of the Estate manages the person's finances and property. The guardian is not personally responsible for the individual's debts. Responsibilities may include:

- overseeing management of the person's property and possessions
- protecting and preserving the person's property including accurate and timely accounting
- filing an annual accounting to the court
- advocating for the individual's best interests

## Call or Visit Us

Kenosha County Division of Aging, Disability & Behavioral Health Services.

M − F ♦ 8 a.m. − 5 p.m.Appointments available.(Additional hours available upon request)

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