

ROLES OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN DISABILITY RIGHTS



Principal

In a power of attorney agreement, the person choosing to share their rights with someone else is called the principal.

An Agent is the person who is allowed to make decisions for you under a Power of Attorney.



Agent



Ward

A Ward is the name of the person who has a guardian.

A Guardian is a person who a judge says can make decisions for you.



Guardian



Guardian Ad Litem

A Guardian Ad Litem is a person who gives their opinion about whether or not a person needs a guardian to the Judge.

This is a person you choose in your Supported Decision Making agreement who explains things to you and gives you their opinion about your options



Supporter



Judge

The Judge is the man or woman who listens to cases and makes decisions.

Attorneys know the law and help speak up for you in court or when signing or writing a legal document.

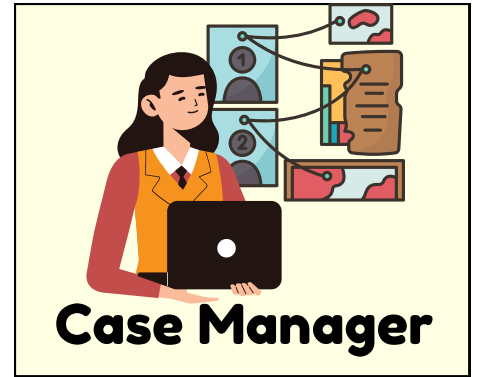


Attorney



Mandated Reporters have to tell someone if they think someone might be hurting you or taking advantage of you in some way.

Case Managers make plans to help clients get the services they need. They may help multiple people and organizations work together to serve a client.



Social workers are licensed professionals who provide direct services to clients. They help individuals, groups, and families prevent and cope with problems in their everyday lives.

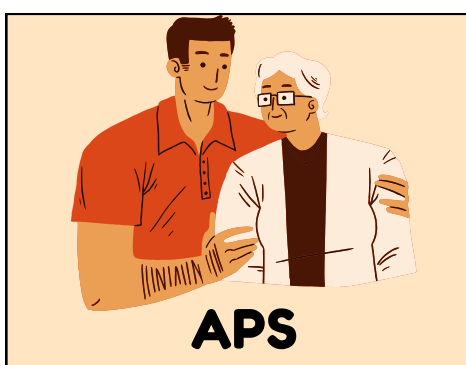


Case Managers vs. Social Workers

Social workers help people directly. Case managers make plans for people to get the help they need. Social workers and Case managers work together to help a lot of people.



When Child Protective Services gets a report that a child may be in danger or is being taken advantage of in some way, they investigate to make sure the child is safe.



When Adult Protective Services gets a report that an adult may be in danger or is being taken advantage of in some way, they investigate to make sure the adult is safe.

A Protection and Advocacy Group helps make sure people with disabilities are able to live happily and with all of their rights.



These are just a few examples of different people who help those in the disability community learn about and protect their rights. While you may not interact with them all, we hope this information will help you understand who might be out there to help you!