Objective: Enable WINGS to promote development of options less restrictive than guardianship; contribute to changing culture toward planning ahead.

Examples of WINGS Action:

- Alaska, Indiana, Texas, Wisconsin – Active WINGS involvement in proposed or passed supported decision-making agreement legislation
- Idaho – Judicial and stakeholder training on less restrictive options, supported decision-making
- Indiana – Preparation for supported decision-making pilot
- Minnesota – Outreach and education on supported decision-making
- Oregon – “Mapping project” to identify gaps in use and availability of less restrictive options
- Utah – Training of professionals on advance life planning and guardianship

WINGS Challenges/Questions – How Can WINGS:

- Engage professionals who could direct people to options instead of guardianship
- Balance attention to less restrictive options outside court with improvements in court processes
- Promote less restrictive options yet aim to safeguard against abuse of those options
- Effect a real change in culture re planning and use of options
- Effect change through legislation/policy vs public/professional education
- Make best use of stakeholder synergy to promote less restrictive options
- Begin with “low-hanging fruit” to ensure and maintain momentum
- Measure use of less restrictive options as a result of WINGS action

Resources:


This action tool is supported by grant No. 90EJG0007-01-00 from the Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Grantees carrying out projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Therefore, points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official Administration for Community Living or DHHS policy.

Under the ACL grant, the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Law and Aging coordinates and provides technical assistance to establish, expand and enhance state Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS). The views expressed in this Action Tool have not been approved by the ABA House of Delegates or the Board of Governors and should not be construed as representing the policy of the American Bar Association.