

Planning Materials Available

Under a grant Life's Plan Inc. created planning materials for individuals, families and attorneys to help navigate the complexities of estate planning for someone with a disability.

The following manuals are available on our website: www.Lifesplaninc.org

- **Family Manual**—"Helping Families Understand Options in Estate Planning for an Individual with Disabilities"
- **Attorney Manual**—"Planning for an Individual with a Disability while Protecting Public Benefits"
- **Self Advocate Guide**—"Speaking for Myself"

Call or visit our website



Contact us:

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Office Hours
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

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OBRA D4C Pooled Trust for People with Disabilities



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Our Purpose

Life's Plan Inc. is a trustee service that offers financial planning and life care services to people with disabilities of any age. Our trustee services are available to individuals and their families to set up a Pooled Third Party Supplemental Needs Trust or a Self Settled Payback Trust to help adequately meet an individual's life care needs. Life's Plan Inc. allows a transfer of an individual's or family's assets into a pooled trust subaccount for the "Sole" benefit of a person with a disability. The trust maximizes the use of these assets for supplemental purposes to enhance the beneficiary's overall quality of life without having to spend down their money directly over to the state. Life's Plan Inc. has the expertise and experience to manage the trust distributions for a beneficiary while meeting all state and federal laws to ensure the individual's public benefits are never lost or jeopardized.

Life's Plan works with individuals, families, service providers, professionals and attorneys in offering:

- We offer Personalized Case-Management to assist individuals and their families in navigating the process of setting up a trust.
- We offer Technical Assistance via Legal Counsel to assist the participant's attorney in drafting an appropriate Special Needs Trust.
- We provide the Trust and the Trustee Services which benefits families when there is no family available to act in this role.
- We provide Professional Oversight of Expenditures.
- We can provide increased earnings by virtue of a larger pool of funds vested.
- We offer Tax Service for the trust account billed at prorated basis in the pool offering a lower fee to each subaccount.
- We use Tested and Government Approved Forms.
- We offer Individual Statements or Online Access upon request.

Why Life's Plan Inc.?

- We have over 25 years of experience established since 1986
- Low Minimums (\$10,000) to set up a trust where other corporate trusts require minimum values of \$75,000 to \$100,000 or greater.
- Low fees in proportion to the starting Trust Values
- Community-based organization with strong roots in Disability Services.
- Trust Management of over 400 beneficiaries.
- We have a Referral Pool of over 40 Attorneys who can assist in drafting an appropriate Special Needs Trust.
- No Maximum dollar amount.
- Our Trusts permits some use of retained funds for Charitable Purposes after the death of the individual.
- Flexibility—Life Care Plan accommodates the changing needs of each beneficiary while allowing families to prioritize specific uses of trust funds legally allowable for long term care needs.



Trust Choices

Third Party Pooled Supplemental Needs Trust

The Life's Plan Third Party Supplemental Needs Trust is a pooled trust available to families and individuals with disabilities to allow use of assets originated from anyone other than the beneficiary to set up for supplemental purposes while not jeopardizing the beneficiary's public benefits. The Third Party Pooled Trust can be set up by a parent, grandparent, and legal guardian of the beneficiary. Trust has been approved by Social Security and Public Aid to allow assets in a trust to be "Non-countable" for qualification of SSI/Medicaid programs. The most important fact about a Third Party Trust is that upon the death of the beneficiary there is no "Payback" requirements to the state for payment of medical assistance costs paid out from Medicaid. The remaining assets from a Third Party Trust can pass on to family, a charity, or whomever the grantor chooses to designate.

Self Settled Pooled Payback Trust (OBRA D4C)

The Life's Plan Self Settled Payback Trust is a pooled trust available to individuals with disabilities and their families to use private assets in a trust for supplemental purposes while maintaining or qualifying for federal and state public benefits. The Self Settled Pooled Trust can be set up by the individual, a parent, grandparent, and legal guardian of the beneficiary. The Self Settled Pooled Trust differs to the Third Party Trust in that funds remaining in the trust upon the death of a beneficiary must "Payback" the state for the lifetime of medical assistance provided to the beneficiary. This trust meets all federal regulations under 42 U.S.C. Section 1396p D(4)C of the Social Security Act. The trust has also been reviewed and approved by Social Security and Public Aid as a Medicaid qualified trust. Individuals aged 65 and older are limited in their option to choose what type of special needs trust with the pooled option as their only choice. The only exception is where a beneficiary or their family has previously set up a Special Needs Trust prior to the age of 65.

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