

# Decision-making Supports

**Greatest Capacity**  
**Least invasive supports**

**Least Capacity**  
**Most invasive supports**

**Self-advocacy**  
**Personal responsibility**  
**Self-empowerment**

**Supported Decision-making**

**Surrogate Decision-making**

**Available Supports**

- Family and friends
- Client Advocate
- Spiritual and Civic Organizations
- Southern Movement organization
- Family Care Councils
- Local Advocacy Councils
- Ombudsman
- Advocacy Center
- Banking Supports
  - Direct Deposit

These supports do not require an individual to relinquish personal rights or responsibility.

This list represents a sampling of available supports. You are encouraged to add other supports available in your area. This list will be specific to each individual.

**Available Supports**

- Client Advocate
- Banking Supports
  - Co-signer
  - Joint Account
- Representative Payee
- Power of Attorney
- Limited Power of Attorney
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Living Will
- Advance Directive
- Trusts (the power to make decisions regarding the assets contained in the trust rests only with the trustee)

These supports allow the person to share specific responsibilities without giving up individual rights. Court action is not required.

**Available Supports**

- Medical Proxy
- Durable Power of Attorney  
 (Can only be initiated by a person who is legally capacitated but remains valid even after incapacity)
- Guardian Advocate (FS 393.12)
- Limited Guardianship (FS 744)
- Plenary (Full) Guardianship
- Trusts

These supports are available to persons who have lost or never reached the capacity to make an informed decision in one or more areas of their life. These supports also represent a transfer of personal rights and responsibilities to the surrogate decision-maker.