***PREFERRED LEGAL PLAN***TM



**A New Wave of Legal Representation**TM

**(888) 577-3476**

**“Caregiver Support Workshop”**

**Why and When should we begin thinking of these documents?**

* The time is NOW
* Allows you to name someone to make decisions before incapacitation and/or death regarding assets and health

**What documents are necessary as a caregiver?**

* Durable Power of Attorney
  + **Purpose.** 
    - **A document that authorizes a primary and alternate person to act in a broad range of legal, financial and business matters and remains in effect even if one is incapacitated**
* Health Care Surrogate
  + **Purpose.** 
    - A document that authorizes a primary and alternate person to become your substitute decision-maker upon incapacitation and gives legal authority to speak to doctors, manage your medical care, access medical information and make medical decisions for you if you cannot do so
      * Cognitive Impairment (i.e. Alzheimer’s, dementia, etc.)
      * Mental Illness (i.e. bipolar, schizophrenia)
      * Intellectual and developmental disabilities
      * Unconsciousness (i.e. surgery, anesthesia)
* Living Will Document/Advanced Directive
  + **Purpose.** 
    - A document where you officially state your wishes to NOT be kept alive by artificial means (i.e. being hooked up to machines) if you are in a vegetative state or similar condition, a/k/a the “pull the plug” document

**What other document might be needed?**

* DNR
  + **Purpose.** 
    - A document where you let medical professionals know that you do not want to be resuscitated (no CPR measures) if you suddenly go into cardiac arrest or stop breathing
    - Different than a living will
    - Only for extremely advanced age

**Other Concerns?**

* Guardianship
  + **Purpose**.
    - Gaining legal control when loved one is not of sound mind
    - Formal process through the courts with attorneys
    - Last resort if too late to get legal documents signed
* Choices for Care
  + Hire Someone in the home (privately or via nursing agency)
  + Assisted Living Facility (ALF)
    - Two Prong Fee (medical and hotel side)
  + Skilled Nursing Facility
    - Straight Medical Fee
  + Paying for Care
    - Long Term Care Insurance
      * Need to purchase policy and can fund care when needed, can be expensive
    - Medicaid
      * Need to apply and qualify, cannot have really any assets (i.e. $3,000 or less) - excludes homestead
      * Payment by government for medical portion of care in a facility

**What Type of Estate Planning Preparation May Be Needed at the Time of Death?**

* Last Wills and Testament
  + A document created during your lifetime that allows you to express your wishes clearly and precisely and direct how your assets will pass and to whom upon your death and provides guardianship for minors
* Revocable Living Trusts
  + A document created during your lifetime that is very similar to a Last Will and Testament and whose main purpose is to avoid probate
* Ladybird Deeds
  + A document specific to Florida that is created during your lifetime and allows a beneficiary to receive your real estate directly upon your death and avoid probate, but also gives you the right to completey use and control the property during your lifetime

*Please note that Preferred Legal Plan prepares all of the above documents for its members as part of Membership at a discounted rate.*

*If you have any further questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to reach out to Preferred Legal Plan at (888) 577-3476.*