

The Special Needs Alliance Gets Around

Visit us at The Arc's 2011 National Convention

September 17-19 in Denver

Visit our Booth! Hear our Speakers!

Issues in Transition: How to best prepare for the future for my loved one now that they are an adult

Saturday, September 17, 8:15 – 9:45 a.m.

An informal roundtable discussion to be conducted as part of "The Exchange"

When a person with a disability turns 18, many issues need to be addressed. Will they stay in school? Who will be able to address issues in their IEP (Individualized Education Program)? Will they now make their own decisions? Must we go to court to have a guardian or conservator named? Can they sign a power of attorney, medical power of attorney? What is better: a power of attorney or guardianship? What public benefits may be available now that were not available when the person was a minor? Should we apply for SSI, Medicaid, etc? How can I protect my loved one's public benefits while providing resources to protect their future quality of life? Where will my child live? How will future needs be paid for? What should I be doing now to best protect my loved one? How will I choose who would be best as an advocate for my loved one? These and other issues in transition will be covered at this seminar.

[*Ann Green*](#), Member, Special Needs Alliance, Roanoke, Virginia

Parent-to-Parent, Heart-to-Heart: Special Needs Legal and Future Planning

Sunday, September 18, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

When you have a child with intellectual or developmental disabilities, planning for the future can be overwhelming. Where do you begin? Who has the answers? How do you find an attorney who understands the financial, legal, and governmental complexities of the special needs world? Could they possibly understand your emotions, concerns, and fears?

Hear from an attorney who not only knows the answers, but has lived through the experience. Discover professional advice...heartfelt compassion...and the unparalleled insight that only comes from being a parent. For nearly three decades, Brian Rubin has dedicated his practice to special needs future planning because he, too, is the parent of a child with special needs. Brian's son Mitchell, now 30, has autism.

The presentation will cover:

- Government benefits
- Special Needs Trusts
- Wills, trusts, and powers of attorney
- Choosing future guardians and trustees
- Gifting that will not jeopardize government benefits
- Divorce: the effect of "child support" on government benefits

- Adult guardianship and alternatives
- Guidance for future trustees, guardians, caregivers and providers
- How to find an experienced attorney near you

[Brian Rubin](#), *member, Special Needs Alliance, Buffalo Grove, Illinois*