



The Guardian Institute

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Bridge Builders, Ltd.

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WE WANT TO HELP!

GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

- Are you provisionally certified? Or do you know someone who is?
- Would you need to travel more than three hours to the classes in Bellevue?

The Guardian Institute is interested in reimbursing travel costs for one (1) qualifying individual who will be taking the UW CPG Certification course in the September. Travel expense include a hotel stay for up to three nights, mileage and meals. **A value of up to \$1,200.00!**

In order to enter, send an email to info@bridgebldrs.com and put "Travel Expenses" in the subject line. Include the following information:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Phone number
4. The county and city you are traveling from
5. The number of miles to Bellevue, one way
6. Whether you plan to be solo practice or work for/with an agency or other guardian
7. Why you have decided to become certified as a guardian
8. Include a copy of your provisional certification letter

Deadline: July 1, 2017

4th Annual CPG CE Conference—Spokane

There are five (5) partial scholarships available (**value: \$200.00 each**) for this conference. See page four for the dates and location. A scholarship application is included in this newsletter.

Deadline: August 1, 2017

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BUSINESS OF GUARDIANSHIP: MENTORS

The Importance of Mentors

Many of us don't think about the importance of having mentors. A mentor is someone who teaches another individual, directly or indirectly. If we are open to learning, we will have many mentors in our lifetime. Here are a few that I've had as a certified professional guardian.

Attorneys: I've had a variety of attorneys who have taught and supported me individually and as the owner of a guardian agency. I feel so fortunate to have these knowledgeable individuals take a few minutes and sometimes longer to teach and encourage me. Some provide an important sounding board that has often prevented me from doing something I might have regretted.

Employees: As an owner, one might not think that employees teach the owner but I have had the very good fortune of having employees who have taught me so much over the years. My first bookkeeper taught me how to be a responsible fiduciary. My current bookkeeper keeps me on my toes with her ability to work efficiently and passionately. The other guardian in my agency is amazing at de-escalating agitated clients and upset family. My care manager has wonderful observation skills that can bring an entirely fresh view of client behaviors and situations. I am in awe of all of them.

Other certified professional guardians: Many certified professional guardians do not realize what a wealth of information they have. It's easy to think that everyone knows what we know but that isn't true. Because we are thrown into such a variety of situations, we have far more knowledge about how our long-term care system works than most people. At continuing education events, we learn from each other.

Clients: I have learned so much from my clients. Sometimes I'm just amazed that they manage as well as they do despite significant cognitive impairment. Each client has a different personality and their cognitive impairment presents in a unique way, which challenges me to learn how to meet them on their own level and then help them move forward in their lives.

Medical professionals: A doctor I worked for while attending my master's degree program helped me understand the challenges of modern day medicine as well as giving me valuable business advice that I've remembered and implemented while growing my own business. While learning to advocate for my clients, I've learned to respect the challenges medical professionals face in providing care to individuals with cognitive impairment and, conversely, I've tried to step up my efforts to help the medical professionals understand my clients' individual nuances.

Given a little more thought I'm sure that I could come up with a much longer list. I invite others, guardians or not, to share their mentors and what they learned. Mentors are a gift that helps us grow individually and collectively.



ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS

Client A0002—Clallam County Mini-grant amount awarded: \$2,000 Amount Expended: \$1,586.65

[Update] Client A0002 was mentioned in the October 2016 newsletter who was desperately in need of alternative housing. Our “system” has repeatedly failed this client. The client continues to improve medically. The Guardian Institute is making it possible for him to stay in his community with people that he knows and who support him. The client is excited at the prospect of moving closer to the support center. Without the assistance of the Guardian Institute, this client would be forced to move into a homeless shelter in a different city where he would not know anyone and be cut off from his support system. This would have caused him considerable confusion, stress and increased behavior issues.

Client A0003—Clallam County Loan awarded: \$3,000.00 Amount Expended: \$1,200.00

[Update] Client A0003 is on Medicaid and has a house, full of furniture and other items that have no resale value, that needs to be sold. The Guardian has found a contractor willing to empty the house for \$1,200.00. The realtor that will be the real estate listing agent has agreed to arrange for the electricity to be turned back on so that the client doesn't have to pay a deposit. The amount used of the approved amount will be re-paid to the Guardian Institute at the closing of the house sale so that these funds will be available to other Guardians for this purpose. *The house has an approved offer and is pending sale.*

If you are interested in donating to support these clients, please send a check to:

Guardian Institute

PO Box 610

Sequim, WA 98382

See the donation form in this newsletter.



CRISIS STABILIZATION (KING)

One of the goals of the Guardian Institute is to provide resources to lay and professional guardians.

A mental health agency in King County has offered a free consultation for any guardianship client in King County referred through the Guardian Institute. Any lay or Certified Professional Guardian interested in this service can contact the Guardian Institute through Bridge Builders, Ltd by calling (360) 683-8334 or emailing info@bridgebldrs.com. The Guardian Institute will arrange to connect you with the agency.

SHIRLEY BONDON SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS TO LAST MONTHS BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The UW Program was asked to explain to anyone planning to become certified that they should apply for provisional certification before enrolling. Everyone who take the UW training doesn't plan to be certified.

WINGS *did not* submit a recommendation regarding the CPGB providing more Ethics Advisory Opinions. A board member asked the Board to consider drafting advisory opinions.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

4th Annual CPG CE Conference—Spokane

September 12 & 13, 2017

NEW VENUE! Red Lion River Inn, Spokane

*** Refer a potential speaker (\$30.00 discount on your registration per credit hour)

***Be a CPG speaker (\$100.00 discount on your registration per credit hour)

***Recruiting and organizing vendors. The time will be deducted from your registration fees.

2017 NGA National Conference on Guardianship

October 14-17, 2017

Venue: Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Colorado Springs, Colorado

****Mindi Blanchard has been chosen as a presenter at the National Guardianship Association's National Conference on Guardianship taking place October 14-17, 2017 at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort in Colorado Springs, CO. Her session title is "Volunteer Guardian Advocate Program." She will present at a Sunday, October 15th breakout session.

***If you have a continuing education event you wish to add, please email
info@bridgebldrs.com***