



The Guardian Institute

Administered by
Bridge Builders, Ltd.
Public Charity 501(c)3

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Website: guardian-institute.org
Facebook: Guardian Institute of
Washington

LEGISLATION BRIEFS

HR5604—UNIFORM GUARDIAN ACT was passed. If you want to learn how this affects guardians, Judge Anderson will be presenting on it at our fall conference (see page 4). The new laws go into effect as of January 1, 2021. The legislature is still working on fine-tuning it.

PUBLIC GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM

- The Public Guardianship Program has been a pilot program since its inception in 2007. The legislature has now made it a permanent program! They also passed legislation allow less restrictive alternatives through the Public Guardianship Program (although we don't know exactly how that will work yet).
- Stacey Johnson, Office of Guardianship and Elder Services, had requested funding for an additional 100 guardianships to be provided by the Public Guardianship Program. The legislature approved and increase in funding for 50 additional guardianships. This funding will start July 2020.
Current funding is for 75 guardianships statewide.
- Jennifer Holderman, who is current part-time providing continuing education through the Administrative Offices of the Courts will also be working part-time for the Public Guardianship Program starting January 2020. She will be a speaker at our fall conference as well.

The Guardian Institute has been approved to be a Representative Payee Organization for Clallam and Jefferson Counties. There is still some work to do to be fully up and running but we've gotten this far in our efforts to assist the low-income individuals who need assistance with bill paying.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Volunteers Needed	2
Tax Deduction	2
Mini-grants	3
Continuing Education	4

Now on our web site:

Guardian-institute.org

- Contributor page
- How you can help
- How to donate
- Resources

The Guardian Institute
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LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER GUARDIAN ADVOCATES IN CLALLAM COUNTY

There is a great need for guardians for our most vulnerable population. The Guardian Institute is looking for volunteers for the Volunteer Guardian Advocate pilot program, starting immediately. The time requirement is an average of five (5) hours each month and each volunteer is asked to commit for 3-years with optional renewal. A Volunteer Guardian Advocate is NOT a caregiver. A Volunteer Guardian Advocate is to advocate for their client's needs and appropriate wants, ensure the client is getting the benefit of all the resources he/she is qualified for, assist the client with making medical decisions or make medical decisions on the client's behalf if the client cannot do so.

Basic Requirements:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be of sound mind
- Have no felony convictions
- Have no misdemeanor convictions involving moral turpitude
- Be a resident of Washington State
- Have completed mandatory (online) training
- Be a person who the court finds suitable
- Commitment renewal every 3-years
- Average time needed is 5-hours monthly
- 1-2 guardianship limit per volunteer

The Guardian Institute will provide:

- Arrange legal assistance as needed
- In-person training
- Provide a mentor as needed
- Assistance with Standby Guardian requirement

Contact Bridge Builders, Ltd at (360) 683-8334 or at info@bridgebldrs.com for more information.

Thinking About Tax Deductible Donations?

Please consider the Guardian Institute this year. We provide support for individuals under guardianship as well as to lay and certified professional guardians.

Funds are needed for:

- General fund
- Mini-grants for clients
- Low-interest loans for clients
- Support our website
- Legal fees for low income clients
- Education scholarships lay or professional guardians
- You designate

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS

Client A0004—Skagit County 2019 Mini-grant awarded: \$3,400.00 Amount Expended: \$3287.50

Client A0004 is 23 years old with cognitive and medical conditions and not a US citizen. She currently lives in an Adult Family Home. The guardianship is funded through the Public Guardianship Program. She currently does not qualify for SSI or DDA services because she is not a US citizen. The guardian is working with an immigration attorney with the goal of getting her citizenship. She can work but needs a job coach and the job coach funding ran out. In 2018, Guardian Institute approved a \$2,400.00 grant to pay for job coaching. The guardian has applied for continued funding for 2019, which has been approved.

Client A0006—Clallam County 2019 Mini-grant awarded: \$957.95 Amount Expended: \$957.95

A volunteer Guardian agreed to take this client. The Guardian Institute arranged for legal representation at a significantly reduced rate for the 90-day report.

If you want to apply for a mini-grant or short-term loan on behalf of a guardianship client, please contact the Guardian Institute at info@bridgebldrs.com. The Guardian Institute is willing to consider other financial requests as well.

If you are interested in donating to support these clients, feel free to send a check to the Guardian Institute, PO Box 610, Sequim, WA 98382. The Guardian Institute also accepts VISA and MasterCard. Call 360-683-8334 and a staff person will take the information.

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

2019 Income & Expense January 1 through May 31, 2019

Income: \$39,210.00

Expense: \$31,894.37

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Guardian Institute Fall Conference—Eastern Washington

September 17th & 18th 2019

Venue: The Centennial Hotel, Spokane

Five partial Scholarships available

Confirmed Speakers/Topics

- Judge Anderson—The Uniform Guardian Act
- Lisa Malpass, attorney—TBA
- Lance Rickman—Adult Protective Services
- Mark Clark, DSHS—ETR Process and Q&A
- Darryl Lynch, Oppenheimer—ABLE Accounts vs Special needs Accounts
- Kellie Richardson — Funeral Planning & services
- Richard Perednia, attorney—TBA
- Kellie Durgan—Decision-making in the Face of Serious Illness
- Mark McEnderfer—Pathways
- Jennifer Holderman—Right of Association : During and After Life
- Alan Stanford, Small Business Development Council—TBA
- Channa Copeland, CPG—”Show Me the Money” (finding client assets) and “Family Matters” (finding lost family)
- Kim Edgar, The Bar Plan—Risk Management Tips for Guardians

National Conference on Guardianship

October 12-15, 2019

Venue: Griffin Gate Marriott, Lexington, Kentucky

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

