

# Planning for the Future

## What Will Happen When Your Child Becomes an Adult?



1. Planning for your child's future is important - it takes a lot of work and needs to start early on.
2. Here are a few things you should think about:
  - Estate Planning- this involves looking ahead and deciding on who will care for your child, where your child will live, and the financial needs your child will have (includes writing **wills** and setting up **trusts**).
  - Guardianship- this means that one person will have the legal power to care for another person (mostly used when a person is unable to make his/her own decisions).
3. There are many complicated issues to consider when thinking about these things and it is important that you talk with someone who is very familiar with this area:
  - Talk with your child's school counselor to find out about any local resources that could help you and your family.
  - Call your district court office and ask for the guardianship division.
  - Do your own research so you have a clear understanding of what is happening. **Parent Training and Information Centers** can help. Call them toll-free at **(800) 952-4199**.
4. Remember- it's never too early to start planning - **your child's future depends on it!!**