

The FSA Guardianship Program reaches out to those older adults who lack the capacity to make personal decisions for themselves and have no friends or family who can act in that capacity.

Obtaining guardianship of an individual is a serious step. Family Service only pursues guardianship of the person when all other avenues of intervention have been explored and exhausted, or there is no support system in place.

Initially, we provide an assessment and evaluation. We interview family members and other interested parties to determine if guardianship should be pursued.

If guardianship is appropriate, we then petition the court to obtain legal guardianship.

The court upholds this petition when the court determines the individual is incapacitated, i.e. the individual is unable to meet requirements for basic physical health and safety, and the individual is unable to receive, understand, or evaluate information and appreciate the consequences of their actions.

As a guardian of the person, case managers strive to make sure each person receives good quality care, and that the Ward's basic needs of food, shelter, personal and medical care are met. We do this by working closely with lawyers, physicians, nurses, therapists and others to plan the best possible course of treatment and care.

We have a team consisting of our CEO and the three Guardianship staff who jointly make decisions about care. No major decision is made without consultation of all team members.

FAMILY SERVICE ASSOCIATION
Serving Bucks County in their homes, in their communities and
in our offices

Langhorne Office
4 Cornerstone Drive
Langhorne, 19047
215-757-6916

Doylestown Office
708 N. Shady Retreat Road
Doylestown, 18901
215-345-0550

Quakertown Office
312 W. Broad Street
Quakertown, 18951
215-538-1616

Bristol Office
Kelly Family Center
2 Canal's End Road, Ste 201G
Bristol, 19007
215-781-6602

www.fsabc.org fsabc@fsabc.org

Our Mission

To protect, maintain, strengthen, and enhance individuals, families, and children, and their social and psychological functioning

Our Vision

Strong communities of healthy individuals, families, and children

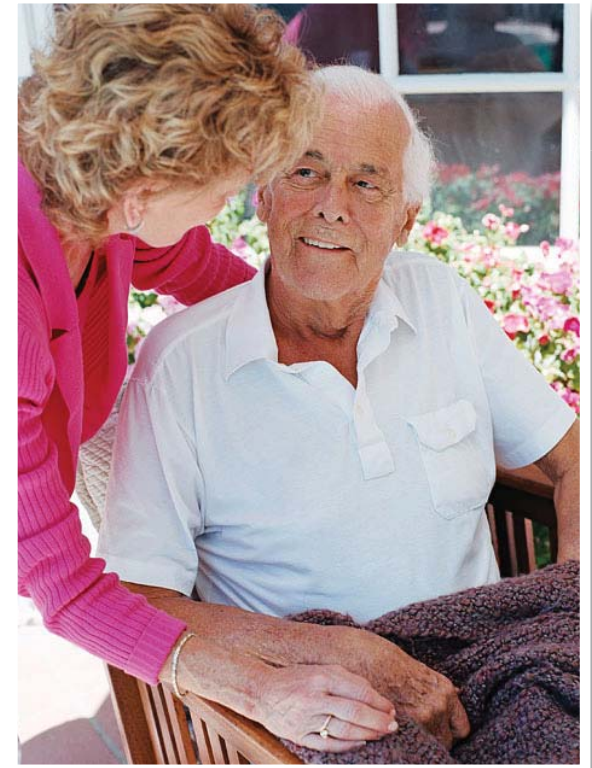
Family Service Association

- Protects the elderly
- Reduces substance abuse
- Increases opportunities for adults
- Improves lives of those with mental illness
- Prepares children and adolescents for the future
- Improves the quality of life for those living with HIV/AIDS

Family Service is a member of The United Way of Bucks County and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services, Inc. The agency is licensed by The State of Pennsylvania to provide both outpatient Mental Health, and Drug and Alcohol services.

Services and employment are provided in a nondiscriminatory manner without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, disability, age, or limited English proficiency.

Guardianship



Strengthening the lives of individuals, families,
and communities since 1953.

What is Guardianship of the Person?

A Guardian of the Person is appointed by the Court to manage the personal affairs of an individual with intellectual and/or other developmental disabilities, and is responsible to protect and assist the individual (Ward) who because of their disability is not able to manage their affairs and adequately provide for their own care or custody.

Guardianship Fee Schedule

Guardianship services are offered at a rate of \$90/hour for private guardianship.

Contact Us

If you would like more information about our Guardianship Program, please contact:

Bernadette O'Connor, MA
215-757-6916 ext. 236

Guardianship Services include:

- Acting on the Ward's behalf to assure the Ward's rights are respected
- Meeting at least monthly with the Ward
- Communicating with the facility social worker assigned to the Ward whenever a significant change is needed in the level of care or services
- Giving consent or approval for any medical, psychological or psychiatric procedures, testing and care necessary for the health and welfare of the Ward
- Being responsible for insuring that appropriate action is taken
- Following up after an intervention to assess outcomes, and adjust plans if necessary
- Providing timely and complete service reports as required to the Court
- Maintaining an accurate, up-to-date Guardianship Record for each Ward in accordance with accreditation and other professional standards

