

## FUTURES PLANNING

# Why Plan?

- Having a plan in place decreases individual and family anxiety. Although plans will change, creating the important tools and having the plan as a road map gives everyone peace of mind and direction.
- Planning can maintain a person's eligibility for critical public benefits, including Supplemental Security Income, individual supports, job assistance, residential services, and Medicaid health insurance.
- Planning can provide supplemental funds for your child, so he or she can obtain support services and purchase items that are not covered by public benefit programs.
- Planning can provide the potential for a person with a disability to live in his/her own home, and provide funds to maintain the home.
- Planning can provide non-financial benefits by increasing the number and quality of people involved your child's life, and strengthening his or her connections to places that are important to you like churches or community centers.
- Planning can pull together the resources to help to provide the kind of life a person or his/her family wants.
- Finally, planning allows limited public funds to stretch further, assisting more people with disabilities.

For more information on topics discussed in this fact sheet, contact  
The Arc of Frederick County.  
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**The Arc**  
OF FREDERICK COUNTY, INC.

*These Fact Sheets are designed to provide general information only and are not designed to provide legal advice. Families and individuals are strongly urged to consult with an attorney and other appropriate professionals regarding their individual situation before taking action.*