



**"Alternatives to Guardianship"
Web Conference
Monday, December 3, 2007
1:00 - 2:30 PM**

In the words of presenter Marsha Katz: "There is no question asked more often by the parents of a child with a disability than, **'What will happen to my son or daughter when I am no longer around?'** The combination of love, fear and concern as a child approaches adulthood often has parents questioning whether or not they should pursue legal guardianship. This parental inner struggle is made even more difficult by the lack of information available regarding what a guardianship can and can't do. In fact, most people have many misconceptions about what a guardianship really is... and isn't. This Web conference will offer parents, teachers and support providers information they don't typically receive about guardianship. In addition, it will offer students and families alternatives that can allow families to remain respectfully involved in their children's lives as they transition into adulthood."

Topics to be covered include:

- Realities and myths of guardianship
- Tools such as the "Release of Information," "Advocacy Authorization," and "Medical Power of Attorney"
- The benefits of using "person-centered planning"
- How to answer the "what if?" questions that inevitably arise
- A discussion of the possibilities for typical supports, available to everyone, or disability-specific supports that can serve as alternatives to guardianship

Web conference attendance may be used to help meet Office of Public Instruction Renewal Unit requirements. There is no cost to participate in this training session thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities and the Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Presenter: Marsha Rose Katz - Marsha is a Project Director at the University of Montana Rural Institute, and author of an advocacy manual on Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), entitled *Don't Look for Logic*. She is also a member of the Social Security Advisory Board.

Marsha has worked in disability rights for over 25 years, and came to Montana in late 1998 after serving as Vice President of the Association for Community Advocacy in Michigan. She is an experienced trainer in all aspects of SSI, SSDI, assisting people with disabilities to start their own businesses, and alternatives to guardianship. Her additional interests include disability law and policy, persons with cognitive disabilities in the criminal justice system, parents with disabilities, and fetal alcohol syndrome/fetal alcohol effects. Marsha is active nationally with both ADAPT and Not Dead Yet.

Registrations are due by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 28, 2007.

Web Conference Registration

Name: _____

Agency/School (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

When you register for a Web conference, we automatically add your name and address to our Transition Mailing List and your email address to our Montana Transition Listserv so you can receive the latest information about transition "best practices." If you **do not** wish to be added to either/both of these lists, please indicate this below.

I **do not** wish to be added to the Transition Mailing List _____

I **do not** wish to be added to the Transition Listserv _____

If you need verification of your Web conference participation for **Office of Public Instruction Renewal Units**, include the phone number from which you'll participate here: _____

Third Party In-Kind Contribution Verification

State and federal grants require us to provide a match in money or in-kind services. As long as your salary is not federally funded, we can count the value of the time you spend participating in this Web conference toward meeting our in-kind match requirement. Please complete the items in bold below to help us document that we have met this requirement. Thank you.

EVENT: Web Conference Training
DATE of contribution: December 3, 2007
Banner Index Number: M67064
Program Title: Partnerships for Transition
Funding Agency: MCDD
Total Hours: 1.5

Rural Institute Use Only

Project Director's Signature:

Hourly Rate (if you wish to leave this blank, we will use the federal hourly rate of \$26.19): _____

Total Amount (we will calculate): _____

I hereby certify that the contribution reported herein has not been and will not be paid from any federal funds and that further said contribution has not been and will not be used as matching for any other federally funded program. I also hereby certify that if my electronic signature is used, this is valid documentation in accordance with administrative procedures.

Please sign or type your name: _____ Date: _____

E-mail registration to Connie Lewis at: cjlewis@ruralinstitute.umt.edu; **or fax to:** (406) 243-4730; **or mail to:** Rural Institute, Attn: Connie Lewis, 634 Eddy Ave., 009 Curry Health Center, UM, Missoula, MT 59812. After registering, you will receive an email confirmation, along with the toll-free dial-in number, Web site and access code for the session.

This training is an activity of the Partnerships for Transition Project, which is funded by the Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities, and of MT-TIRC, which is funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities.