

Through GSI's **Guardianship Program**, case managers and volunteers obtain necessary community services, health treatment, housing, and benefits. This enables these clients to function as normally as possible, considering their limitations.

The **Money Management Program** monitors the financial affairs of its clients, making sure that their limited resources are strictly utilized for their benefit and in collaboration with their wishes.

Principles of Decision Making

GSI follows two basic decision-making principles.

Substituted Judgment. Our goal is to find out what the client would have wanted if he or she had capacity and could have communicated that decision. If possible, we then carry out the client's wishes.

Best Interest. When it is impossible to learn what a client would want, we evaluate the risks and benefits of a course of action and decide what would best serve the client.



GSI Needs You!

Why act as a volunteer for GSI?

The people who need your help are friends and neighbors—people in your community who held jobs, raised families, attended church. As a GSI volunteer, you visit your client on a regular basis, monitor their environment, listen to stories, go shopping, make sure they receive regular medical attention, and report on a frequent basis to GSI's case manager.

If someone you care about faced insurmountable problems, and you were not available to help, wouldn't you want a passionate, committed volunteer to be by his or her side?

Contact Our Director of Volunteers Today!

volunteer@guardianshipservices.org



Changing Lives + Creating Hope

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CHANGING LIVES
CREATING HOPE

Guardianship Services, Inc. (GSI) makes prudent decisions for people who can no longer formulate, communicate, or implement decisions for themselves.

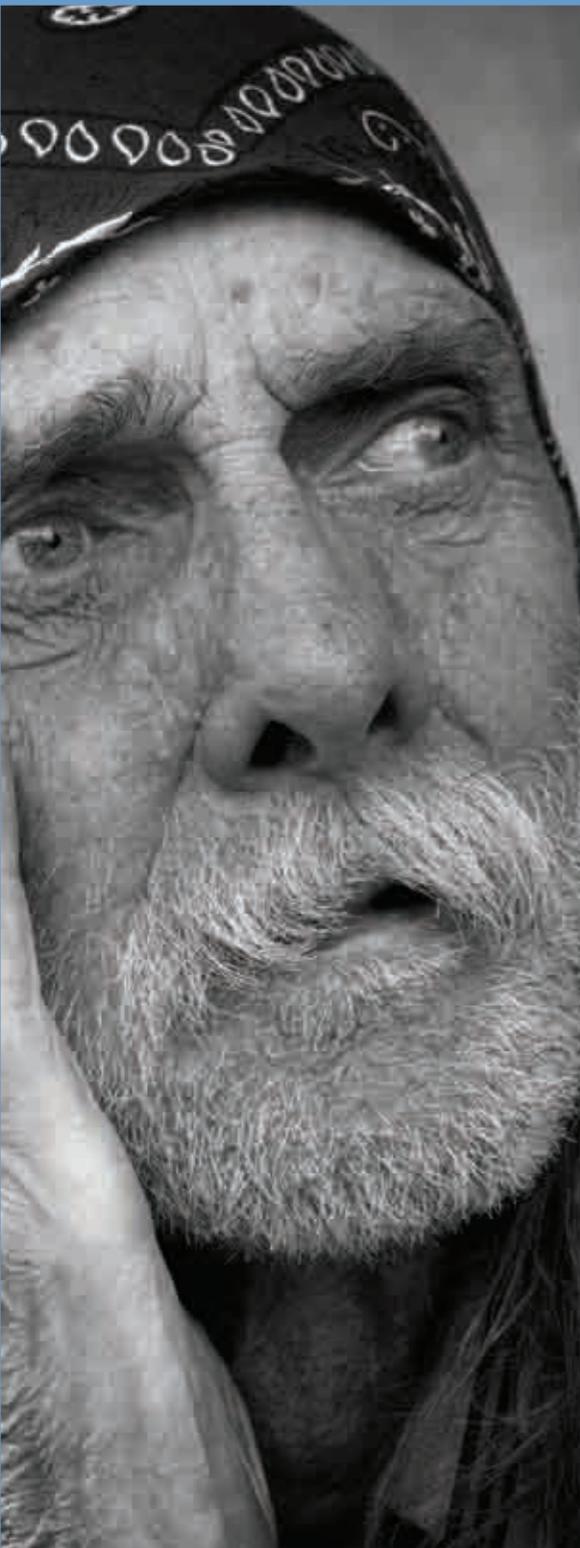
GSI's goal is to provide clients with as much autonomy as possible, while still protecting them from mistreatment or neglect. This is a delicate balancing act. Our involvement takes a client from a world of loneliness, despair, illness, and exploitation to a world of hope. Many clients have experienced self-neglect, physical abuse, or financial exploitation. They suffer from developmental disabilities, dementia, severe memory loss, or other cognitive or physical impairments.



Changing Lives



Guardianship Services, Inc.



The Guardianship Program

He is so confused. Sometimes he doesn't remember where he is or why no one comes to visit. He can't remember what he is supposed to do. Can someone help?

As a guardian, GSI is responsible for making decisions regarding the health and well-being of the client. The guardian's authority is governed by a court order and the Texas Probate Code. Included in the responsibilities of a guardian are:

- Ensuring a safe and secure living environment;
- Arranging for and consenting to medical treatment;
- Applying for public benefits;
- Making sure the client receives appropriate nutrition and medication;
- Arranging for in-home or other support services; and
- Advocating for the client's preferences and needs.

When a client is referred to GSI from the Probate Court, the first task is to assess the safety and appropriateness of the client's environment. All necessary steps are taken to protect the client and secure resources. A relevant care plan determines the course of action conducted by the staff and volunteers. Any liquidation of assets must be approved by the Probate Court.

Money Management Program

Picture this. She has no electricity. No way to get to the store. Out of medicine. No money for groceries. A stack of bills and letters. Same thing every month. Who can help?

GSI's **Money Management Program** is an alternative to guardianship—a way to provide assistance before a small difficulty becomes a serious crisis which could result in the need for a guardianship. The client receives as much or as little help that is necessary, and participation is voluntary in one of three programs:

Representative Payee Program clients have GSI appointed as Payee for the client's Federal government benefit check(s). The monthly check and all bills are delivered to GSI. After bills are paid, budgeted money is delivered to the client to be spent as the client wishes.

Bill Payer Program clients maintain control over their finances. The clients, due to certain physical limitations, count on GSI to help with the bill paying process.

Money Management Education Program clients participate in one-on-one and classroom sessions designed to teach them to pay bills, shop, and independently manage their finances.



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