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Disability & Systems  
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Special Needs Trust  
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Financial Planning for  
Special Needs  
Children

Disabilities & Life  
Planning Consulting

Personal Assistance  
Services (a.k.a. care  
aide assistance)  
Consulting

Life Outside of  
Nursing Homes  
Through Independent  
Living Advocacy

Planning for Success  
in Education &  
Employment for  
Students with  
Disabilities

Consulting on  
Marriage & Family  
with Disabilities

Consulting on  
Accessible &  
Affordable Housing  
Through Universal  
Design

Assistive Technology  
Resources Consulting

Consulting on the  
Americans with  
Disabilities Act  
(ADA), and Section  
504 of the  
Rehabilitation Act

Consulting on Work  
Incentives for  
Persons with  
Disabilities Seeking  
Employment

Seminars and  
Workshops on  
Disability Subjects

## WHAT THE SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST CAN PURCHASE

Examples of items which may be purchased by the trust:

### A. FURNISHINGS

1. Prepayment of cable TV (usually cable companies will give a prepay discount).
2. Prepayment (if possible) for hair care.....check that hairdresser will refund if client doesn't use.
3. Special shoes, arch supports, elastic hose, incontinence supplies (if there is room to store them with family). Extra pair(s) of glasses, hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, gel pad for chair or bed to prevent bedsores, egg crate-mattress.
4. Durable medical equipment: wheelchair, deluxe walkers, geri-chair, alternate pressure pump mattresses to prevent bedsores.
5. Blankets, bedspreads, knick-knacks, hobby items, framed photos, pictures, plants, rocking chair (if facility has space and will permit).
6. Improved remote TV's (extra remotes), radio, VCR (for watching tapes of family events, if any, or nostalgic movies), tape recorder and books on audio tapes, telephone with variable volume and large print numbers and auto dial or a speaker phone, (if connected in facilities, phones must be monitored carefully for unauthorized use by others), large locked cabinet to hold appliances and a rolling TV stand with lock and/or chain if needed.
7. Club or hobby memberships and magazines.

### B. SERVICES

1. Home care or other companion services to provide care or companionship and visitation in the facility or at home.
2. Massage therapists.

3. Psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, therapists, and dental care.
4. Fresh flower delivery—especially for holidays.
5. Alternative medical care—acupuncture, hypnosis, and relaxation therapies.

## **C. MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Trips and travel—hire a wheelchair van or limousine to transport wheelchair bound clients. If client is too frail to travel or even make local trips, send for old friends or relatives and pay for their trip to visit the potential recipient. (Any airline tickets must not be refundable to the traveler and must be returned to the Trustee).
2. Clients can throw themselves and other residents a “birthday” party and the recipient will be the guest of honor—special foods, entertainment. The facility social worker will (usually) be glad to organize.

## **D. AGGRESSIVE ASSET PRESERVATION**

**CAUTION:** These items could become subject to an estate claim and/or be characterized (at least initially by the eligibility worker) to be countable resources.

1. Purchase a car to meet the transportation needs of the patient.
2. Pay relatives to visit and do errands, (compare rates of professional companions), write a contract for services, keep time and payroll records for Medicaid. If worker can meet the standards to be qualified as an independent contractor rather than employee, no employment taxes are payable. Worker may have taxable earnings.
3. Purchase a portion of house. To be exempt, home must be or have been the patient’s residence.

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