

## Guardianship versus Supported Decision-Making



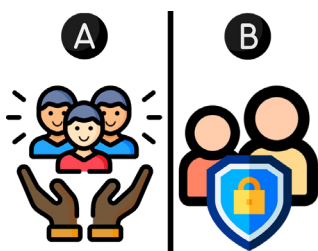
Guardianship means someone else makes your decisions.

In guardianship, your right to make decisions is given to your guardian.

Some examples of these rights are:



- Which friends you have
- How you want to spend your money
- Whether you get to go to school or have a job



There is an alternative to guardianship called Supported Decision-Making.



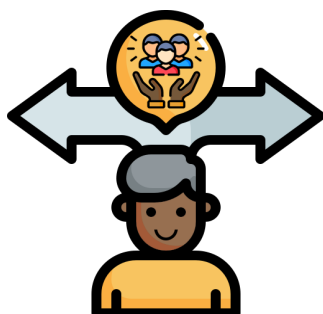
Supported Decision-Making allows you to make your own decisions.



Supported Decision-Making understands that everyone gets help and support to make decisions.



In Supported Decision-Making, you choose trusted people to help you make decisions.



With Supported Decision-Making, you are in charge of the decisions about you!



## ***Guardianship***

Someone else is in charge of making decisions for you

Your guardian *might* listen to you and your choices, but they don't have to

Your right to make decisions is given to your guardian



## ***Supported Decision-Making***

You make your own decisions with supporters you choose

You make your own decisions even when supporters disagree with you

You keep your right to make decisions



## ***Guardianship***

A judge decides in court that you need a guardian

Guardianship is usually permanent

It is very hard to get out of guardianship once you are under it

The decisions that your guardian makes for you will not always be perfect



## ***Supported Decision-Making***

SDMNY helps you and your supporters create a Supported Decision-Making Agreement

A Supported Decision-Making Agreement is flexible

You can make changes or end it any time

The decisions that you make will not always be perfect