



Asset Preservation and Long-Term Care Planning

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What is Elder Law?

- It's more than just documents
- Planning for Today....and Tomorrow
- Combination of:
 - Estate Planning
 - Tax Planning
 - Public Benefits for long term care
 - Special Needs Planning



Primary Goals

- Have enough money to pay for care needs
- Age in place
- Protect Spouse
- Protect other disabled family members
- Pass Resources on to the next generation, when possible



Health Continuum

Independent

(Revise Estate Planning Documents/Fund Trusts)



Assistance in Home/Personal Care

(VA Benefits and/or In-Home Medicaid Programs)



Skilled Nursing Facility Care

(Long Term Care Medicaid)



Medical Event Things to Consider...

- Who had the medical event?
- What are the clinical needs?
- Where can care or assistance be provided?
- When do these decisions need to be made?
- Who pays for this?



Level of Care Options

- Acute Care
- LTAC/ARU
- Skilled Nursing Facility
- Assisted Living Facility
- Personal Care Homes
- Independent Living Facilities
- Home
- Hospice



Pre-Planning

- Retirees looking ahead
- Families with indication of long term care needs
- Awareness of family member with special needs



Basic Estate Planning + Asset Preservation **Planning**

 Last Wills and Testaments, Durable Powers of Attorney & Healthcare Powers of Attorney/Living Wills

+

- A variety of irrevocable trusts
- Possibly LTC Insurance (if qualify)
- CCRC



Trust Planning

- Asset Protection Trusts
 - Subject to 5-year look-back
- Special Needs Trusts
 - 3 types
 - Some age limitations



Planning for in-home personal care

- Home and Community Based Services
- **Act** 150
- LIFE Pittsburgh
- Veteran's Benefits
- CaregiverAgreements
- Application for Social Security Disability/SSI



Planning for Skilled Nursing Facility Care

Preplan v.
Crisis
Planning

- Almost never too late to get help
- Immediate medical care need
- Focus on care
- Timing is critical!



What *Really* Happens in a Skilled Nursing Facility?

I have 100 days of insurance coverage....right?

Skilled vs intermediate care... what's the difference?



What is Medicaid?

- Medicaid, known as Medical Assistance ("MA") in Pennsylvania, is a means-tested entitlement program
- Most people needing long-term care eventually qualify for Medicaid.
 - Two-thirds of nursing home residents are receiving Medicaid benefits.
- Do not confuse it with Medicare (a max of only 100 days of SNF care).
- There are certain income and asset limitations.



MA for Married Couples

- ➤ Healthy spouse is guaranteed monthly income of \$2,155.
- ➤ Healthy spouse may keep ½ of couples assets up to \$137,400 plus exempt resources.



Joanne and Tom

- Joanne is in a Nursing Home on Medicaid
 - Home valued at \$200,000
 - 1 Car
 - Prepaid funerals and burials
 - Tom's IRA = \$50,000
 - Other assets = \$75,000
 - Joanne pays \$1,500/month to nursing home

Bob and Edna

- Bob is in a Nursing Home on Medicaid
 - Home valued at \$350,000
 - 1 Car
 - Prepaid funerals and burials
 - Edna's IRA = \$500,000
 - Other assets = \$137,000
 - Edna still works and keeps all her earnings



Tabitha

- ➤ Tabitha is in a Nursing Home on Medicaid
 - House and Assets Placed in a Trust over 5 years ago valued at \$300,000
 - 1 Car
 - Prepaid funeral and burial
 - \$8,000 in assets



For More Information...

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Thank you! - Questions?

Contact us for a No-Obligation Consultation

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