

**Legal and Ethical Issues Associated with  
End of Life Decisions**

made on behalf of

People with Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities

A Conference Sponsored by  
Onondaga Community Living

**In the Rosamond Gifford Room**

**At 518 James Street**

**September 16, 2008**

**10:00 – 1:00**

***Onondaga Community Living***

***518 James Street, Suite 110***

***Syracuse, New York 13203***

*The program is \$10/person. Please mail check to address  
above.*

*Registration is required.*

*Call 315-434-9597 for more information.*

## PROGRAM

10:00	INFORMED CONSENT	Eileen Zibell, Esq., Assistant Counsel, New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
10:30	SURROGATE DECISION-MAKING COMMITTEES	Patricia W. Johnson, Esq., Assistant Counsel, New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities
11:00	HEALTH CARE PROXIES	Eileen Zibell, Esq., Assistant Counsel, New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities
11:30	HEALTH CARE DECISIONS ACT	Michele Hanzel, Esq., Assistant Counsel, New York State Office of Mental Retardation and De- velopmental Disabilities
12:00	DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDERS	Elizabeth Matthews, Esq., Assistant Counsel, NYSARC, Inc.
12:30	QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS	Panel

The conference on the LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH END OF LIFE DECISIONS MADE ON BEHALF OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL RETARDATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES sponsored by Onondaga Community Living is intended to assist hospitals, OMRDD-licensed residential agencies, and the parents and advocates of people with mental retardation or developmental disabilities to understand and implement the New York State statutes that govern end of life decisions made on behalf of persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities.

The laws of New York State provide for special protections and procedures when end of life decisions are made by surrogates on behalf of people with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. Article 17-A of the Surrogate's Court Procedure Act and Article 29-B of the Public Health Law establish certain requirements for making these decisions

The program will consist of two parts. First, a panel of legal experts from the Counsel Offices of OMRDD, NYSARC, and the CQCAPD will present an overview of the laws, regulations, and court decisions that affect surrogate decision-making in cases involving persons with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. They will discuss informed consent, surrogate decision-making committee panels, health care proxies, DNR orders, and the Health Care Decisions Act. Then, this panel of attorneys will be available to discuss the practical issues involved in the implementation of these laws, with an emphasis on how each of the interested parties can collaborate to respect the family's decisions and protect the interests of the patient while obeying the law, in a question and answer format.

The program is intended primarily for those who are involved in surrogate end of life decisions, including physicians, nurses, social workers, and other hospital clinicians; risk managers, chaplains, hospital and agency

counsel; agency directors, residential directors, service coordinators, case management directors and clinical directors; parents and court appointed guardians.

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*Registration for Legal and Ethical Issues Associated with End of Life Decisions - September 16, 2008*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Professional \_\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_\_ Self Advocate \_\_\_\_

Check payable to: Onondaga Community Living