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Microboard

Do

A Microboard is formed when a small group of committed family and friends join together with a person who needs support to create a non-profit society or board. Together this small group of people plan with the person for an empowered and inclusive life. A Microboard is created for the sole support of just one individual.

Story

Crystal's microboard was set up in 1999. We finally got funding from the Ministry of Health for daily care and health support, and from the Ministry of Children and Families for

community support, and we got them to pool it so we have only one point of accounting and reporting. We used the structure of the Vela Microboard Association because it best suited our vision for Crystal as we wanted her to have a fully integrated lifestyle in her own community. The Microboard has given Crystal a full life with flexibility so she can change her activities whenever she wants. Her favourite activities include horseback riding, working at the Theatre, selling Regal Gifts, playing bingo, and going swimming. (abridged from <http://www.microboard.org/> accessed 12/01/10)

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Hints & Hazards

Microboard members must have a personal relationship with the person for whom the board is created. All decisions made by a Microboard will demonstrate regard for the person's safety, comfort, and dignity. The more complex a person's needs are, the more important it is that the services are customized and individualized to support those needs. The staff that work for or with the person through their Microboard, are not "attached" to the buildings in which the person lives, works, volunteers, or recreates. They work for the person, not an agency or business. Board members act

as sponsors to the community ensuring the person participates in community activities with Microboard members (i.e. family functions, social events, etc.) The person must have the opportunity to both receive and give from and to their community. To respect the intimacy of the Microboard process, no more than seven or eight members are recommended for any board. More from http://www.microboard.org/who_is_vela.htm

In Canada you can set up a Microboard for 5p, while in England you need a Discretionary Trust and a Solicitor.