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COLORADO OFFICE OF PUBLIC GUARDIANSHIP

POLICY 1: MISSION AND VALUES

Policy 1.1. Executive Summary

The Colorado Office of Public Guardianship (OPG) established by the Colorado General Assembly will strive to meet the guardianship needs of incapacitated and indigent adults, within the targeted judicial district, who lack willing or appropriate family or friends, while implementing the least restrictive alternatives and person-centered planning. The Colorado OPG will assess the need for, and feasibility of, a statewide office of public guardianship services and provide detailed recommendations for action to the Colorado General Assembly by January 1, 2023. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I, II, and V; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice.

Policy 1.2. Mission Statement

The Mission of the Colorado OPG is to provide guardianship services for indigent and incapacitated adults, within the targeted judicial district, when other guardianship possibilities are exhausted. If Colorado adults lack willing and appropriate family or friends, resources to compensate a private guardian, and access to public service organizations that offer guardianship, the Colorado OPG Pilot Project provides guardianship services to secure the health and safety of these individuals while safeguarding their individual rights and preserving their independence wherever possible. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I, III, and V; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice.

Policy 1.3. Value Statements

Dignity: At-risk adults are treated with individual dignity and respect. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I, III, and V; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice.

Self-determination: The concerns and decisions of at-risk adults are, to the greatest extent possible, considered with the assistance to regain or develop capacities and participate in supported decision-making and person-centered planning. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I, III, and V; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice.

Access and Quality: At-risk adults should receive timely access to appropriate services, consistent with best practice, to ensure personal safety and well-being. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I, III, V, VI, VII and VIII; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice.

Collaboration: The Colorado OPG actively seeks collaborative relationships with governmental and community stakeholders to maximize resources and support continuous improvement of policies and processes. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I, III, V and VI; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice 6, 10, 21, and 24.

Accountability and Transparency: Outcomes of the Colorado OPG are defined, documented, and made available to the Colorado General Assembly and the public, as required by statute, accurately and on a timely basis. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards I - VII; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles 7, 8, and 9; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice 1, 2, 6, 16, 20, 24 and 24.

Policy 1.4. Vision Statement

The Colorado OPG will serve at-risk adults, within the targeted judicial district, with dignity and collaborate with stakeholders to assist in ensuring individuals receive appropriate public guardianship services. The Colorado OPG Pilot Project will educate stakeholders of the value and dignity of at-risk adults to consistently implement least restrictive alternatives and supportive decision-making to ensure the appropriate level of public guardianship is tailored on an individual basis. National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice for Agencies and Program Providing Guardianship Services Standards; National Guardianship Association Ethical Principles; National Guardianship Association Standards of Practice.