Handover Guide

Taking on the role of supporting someone with a learning disability living in a Camphill community

For Evan Davies

Handover Guide

Camphill Families and Friends (CFF) supports the work and life of the residents of Camphill communities and their families and friends. CFF is a voluntary organisation run by trustees with family members who have benefited from life in a Camphill community.

www.camphillfamiliesandfriends.co.uk

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Please note that, while we at Camphill Families and Friends have tried to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, the adult care system changes so rapidly that we cannot guarantee that every fact is correct.

This guide is intended for family members or friends who take on the role of supporters of people with learning disabilities who live in Camphill communities. There are many aspects to this role and not all will be relevant to you. You might be very familiar with some of them, but others may be new, especially if parents have not shared the responsibility beforehand.

We have tried to cover most possibilities and this is therefore meant to be a check-list rather than a job description!

It is important to be aware that social care funding and regulations are subject to constant change. Please always check the current position.

Camphill Families and Friends
July 2017

Handover Guide

Contents

This guide deals with practical matters and responsibilities but we recognise that there is more to life. At their best, Camphill communities can be places of great care and beauty. Many of us have been grateful to be touched by Camphill community life, to see the joy experienced by our relatives, the relationships they have built and the beautiful objects that they have produced. Although many communities have been much changed by the pressures of austerity and regulation, it can still be a life-enhancing experience to support a friend or family member. We wish you well as you undertake it.

Chapter One

Taking over as the supporter of someone with learning disabilities

Parents are often initially reluctant to assume that their other children (or younger relatives or family friends) will want to be involved in supporting their learning disabled son or daughter. However most would be grateful and hugely relieved to feel that they can begin to share some of the responsibility and to know that when they are no longer able to support the person there will be others who can do so.

If families together give some thought to the hand-over process sooner rather than later it will avoid anyone being suddenly faced with a role they know nothing about.

Here are some areas to consider, where a sibling, relative or friend might begin to offer the parents support and understand some of the issues involved.

Your relationship with the Camphill community

The Camphill community is a vital ingredient in the life of your relative. There is no doubt that you will best serve them by developing a good partnership with the community. It is your community too. However not all communities are the same. They have different approaches and some are more family conscious than others. In this chapter we have tried to clarify what is best practice.

Good relationships with the people directly concerned with your relative are important. Your first point of contact is likely to be their Key/ Support Worker. Above them will be the Care and Support Manager, and the General Manager. You may also have contact with your relative's Workshop Leader and/or the Workshop/Day Opportunities Manager. These titles may vary from community to community. It's a good idea to know everyone's names and how best to contact them.

What you can expect of the community

They should keep you well informed about what is happening in the community, and specifically about anything significant concerning your relative.

Families have rights under the Care Act 2014 and you need to be sure that these are respected.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted

You should always be welcome to visit and get to know the key people in the community. Try to develop a good working relationship with those who know your relative best.

Good communication with the community is vital when important decisions are made, for example funding decisions, which are based upon the assessment (or reassessment) of your relative by the local authority.

If the impact and implications of their disabilities are not spelt out in detail then their funding is likely to be reduced. (Please see Chapter Two).

You need to tell the community in writing that you wish to be actively involved and always notified of any assessments or reviews so that you can attend meetings and make written submissions if you want to. You may be the person who knows your relative best and can give the most realistic picture of their history and their needs.

As families you do not have an automatic right to be included but if your relative has capacity and gives permission or indicates they are happy for you to be involved then this should generally be enough. If your relative were deemed not to have capacity to agree to your involvement then you should argue it is in their best interest to have you as part of the process.

It is best practice for local authorities to instigate an annual review for the clients they fund, to identify any changes to the package of care and ensure the services provided are still meeting the person's needs.

> *'People with eligible or other needs which the County Council has decided to meet are allocated a personal budget. Most people will be required to make a financial contribution towards the cost of the personal budget. A written plan is developed to record how it has been agreed that needs will be met. The plan is reviewed each year and revised if needs have changed.'*
> *(Source: Gloucestershire County Council 2017).*

However it would seem from experience shared by our members that this annual review rarely happens. It depends on the authority. If the local authority doesn't offer such a review, then your community should do so and should invite the local authority and other relevant people, e.g community nurse, family members etc. You may need to clarify with the community whether the local authority carries out yearly reviews. The review is a very good opportunity to check a person's progress, see if there are changes they would like to make, and flag up any problems.

Similarly all other important decisions about your relative, such as signing a tenancy, dealing with a safeguarding issue or with the various aspects covered in subsequent chapters, are matters in which the community should involve you closely.

Ask to be copied in on correspondence between the community and any authorities such as benefits agencies, housing and local authorities. There might also be correspondence concerning psychological, psychiatric or other medical assessments. As previously mentioned, the wishes and capacity of your relative may determine the extent of your involvement.

What the community can expect of you

The community should appreciate your interest and support as well as your knowledge of your relative, which ought to be useful to them.

There are Family Forums, Reviews, Festivals, Fairs and Open Days which you can attend. Several communities also produce regular newsletters or have community updates on their websites. These will give you a feel for the community and how it is functioning. Many families also help the community in other individual ways, for instance acting as a trustee, fundraising, and volunteering.

To re-emphasise, your attendance, input and support at assessments and interviews, particularly where funding is implicated, are crucial. Families have been successful in challenging funding cuts when working in tandem with the community.

Personal details

It would be helpful if parents, or whoever is supporting the person now, could provide for the person taking over:

- Medical history
- Educational background
- Copies of past assessments
- Care and Support plans
- Funding applications, current benefits entitlement, local authority funding, Personal Independence Payments (PIPs), Universal Credit (all of these can change)
- Copies of Lasting Power of Attorney or Deputyship if these exist
- Copy of Letter of Wishes from parents if this exists
- Contact details for significant people, e.g. local authority contact, perhaps a social worker, the community learning disability team, mental health team, safeguarding team. Nowadays people rarely have a designated social worker who follows their case. Disability services are hard pressed and short of money and you may well need to be persistent and contact them several times to get an answer – don't give up!

Personal relationship of the carer/ supporter with the individual

It is the emotional support that can make the crucial difference to a person's happiness. Most parents are very tuned in to the small daily occurrences or a change in tone that signal their relative may be struggling. These issues, if not noticed by the community, can quickly build into a problem. Minor changes may be hard to "put your finger on" and harder to explain, and relatives may be reluctant to "make a nuisance" but good staff will always welcome your input even if it is just a feeling that something is not right.

As a family or support group, you could consider (perhaps even write down) the person's particular characteristics, idiosyncrasies, likes and dislikes, anxieties and vulnerabilities; and how best to support, cheer up or calm down the person when they are anxious or distressed.

- Do they have important relationships outside the family? What about interests and activities that they take part in outside the community e.g. college, clubs, choirs?
- How do they like to stay in touch? Telephone? Email? Text? Skype?
- Their need for family relationships, being included in family occasions, family contact time, visiting them in the community
- How do spouses or other members of your family feel about your involvement with the learning disabled person, having them to stay with you etc?

- Diet, clothing, hair, dentist, chiropodist: are these well taken care of in the community as and when needed?
- What personal hobbies do they enjoy and do they have the necessary materials?
- Do they need help to organize or clear out their room and/or their clothes? This can often be an overwhelming task for them
- Are they challenged by new activities and presented with learning opportunities?

This information should all be part of what is described as a 'Person Centred Plan' or PCP.

Each person's relationship and level of involvement with their learning disabled relative will be different, therefore many of the areas we have touched on here may not be relevant in your case. We hope that the overview will at least give everyone something to refer to – an idea of areas to consider.

Chapter Two

Where does funding come from?

Please be aware that facts given below are subject to change.

Public money to fund our relatives comes from three main sources:

- State benefits directly from central government
- Local authority funding. This provides the bulk of the funding
- NHS Continuing Healthcare

State benefits

It is important to support your relative in gaining the highest level of benefits available. Most benefits are divided into different levels according to need. Applying or reapplying for benefits can be difficult because it requires a realistic and honest assessment of what an individual can and cannot do if left alone, rather than an emphasis on what the person can do with support. This is not always easy to define and requires considerable amounts of evidence. You can use anything relevant including previous annual reviews, psychological assessments and doctor's reports. The community should be able to support you to achieve the highest possible levels.

Most Camphill communities are Supported Living providers, though there are a few registered as providing Residential Care.

a) Supported Living

In the case of Supported Living most state benefits are paid directly into the personal accounts of your relatives, who are tenants. Some control their own accounts, while others have Appointees. Appointees can be a family member or a friend. Historically communities have acted as Appointees. However this rarely happens now. (Please see Chapter Five on Appointeeship).

The benefits payable to those in Supported Living are:

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is replacing Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and includes care and mobility components. This covers the individual's needs such as clothing, food, household items and personal activities and entertainment

Universal Credit is a new benefit for people of working age. It is gradually replacing new claims for Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), and Housing Benefit

Housing Benefit is currently based upon the rent charged by the community to our relatives, all of whom have a tenancy. It is generally paid directly to the community and not to the individual. The level of this benefit is likely to be reduced in 2019.

b) Residential Care

In the case of Residential Care the state benefits described above, with the exception of Housing Benefit, are paid directly to the provider of the home and a weekly allowance is made to the individual.

Local authority adult social care funding

As with state benefits, the level of funding varies greatly between individuals and between local authorities. Funding decisions are usually reviewed annually and the authority can make changes – often a reduction. The process of deciding on the level of funding is very complicated but the role of the family is crucial. Family supporters can intervene positively on behalf of the individual.

The whole process is governed by the Care Act 2014 with its emphasis on the wellbeing of the individual. The Act lays down in general terms the process of decision-making but local authorities still have a lot of leeway in how they actually interpret the Act. Practice varies widely so it is always wise to be fully aware of the relevant local authority's procedures as well as the plentiful guidance accompanying the Act.

a) The Assessment or Re-assessment

This is the most important document upon which all others are based. It is created by involving the individual, the family and the community and is usually carried out by a social worker or another representative of the local authority. It identifies at length the eligible needs of the individual in several areas such as physical health, mental health, work and relationships. Individuals are put into categories for each area of need based on what they can or cannot do <u>if left alone without support</u>. It is important that this categorisation is done accurately because the ultimate level of funding depends upon it. The outcomes wished for by the individual are also identified in the assessment. The assessment does not specify the sort of provision that the individual wants, such as a community, but concentrates on what he or she can and cannot do and wishes to achieve.

The family member may be asked to agree with or to sign the assessment and should be sent a copy of it by the authority. If this does not happen, it can be requested.

It is important to emphasise that practice varies widely between local authorities.

b) The Care/Support Plan

This next stage is also important and usually specifies the amount of funding that will be given to each area of need, e.g. on a one-to-one basis for a particular activity (e.g. personal care) or two-to-one or more for other activities (e.g. workshops). The Care/Support Plan usually identifies the community as the provider of care and support.

However there is not always such a specific allocation of funding. Some authorities prefer to allocate a general amount to allow leeway to providers and your family member in how the money is spent. This can also be a way of reducing funding for individuals.

A family member may be asked to agree with or to sign the Care/Support Plan. The Assessment and Care Plan are often presented as a single document but, as with the Assessment, local authority practice varies greatly.

The local authority can adopt more than one approach, either providing the money to the community or, if Direct Payment is preferred, to the individual. Here again there is scope for reducing funding.

What to do if you disagree with a funding decision

A family member can disagree with the Assessment and Care Plan. This is best done during the review itself but, if the disagreement remains, then the family member can enter the local authority's complaints procedure.

If the disagreement persists:

- It is wise to be always polite and amenable, albeit firm, in disagreeing
- Work closely with the community throughout the process
- If you need to appoint a lawyer, be very careful to choose one who is a specialist in learning disability. The lawyer need not be local. Legal aid can be available to people with learning disabilities. The internet can be a good way of finding a lawyer.

NHS Continuing Healthcare

Anyone over 18, assessed as having a "primary health need", may be eligible for Continuing Healthcare. The funding is not dependant on a particular disease or condition, and is reviewed regularly. If needs change, so may the funding.

Your role as a family supporter of your relative in funding matters

As you can see, family supporters have a considerable role in the process of establishing funding for their relative, particularly local authority funding:

- Work closely with your community. Ask to be informed about forthcoming reviews and any major decisions regarding your relative. Attend reviews, reassessments and meetings
- Take a positive role, remembering that your relative may depend upon you to negotiate an increase or maintenance of his or her funding

- Above all, do not be afraid to be pro-active and to speak out. It is your right to do so but you have to exercise your rights. Participating in funding decisions can be an extremely anxious time for family members, as your own parents may have experienced when they were the main family supporters, but be encouraged
- Contact CFF for advice. While we cannot give legal advice, we can often provide you with basic information and we can certainly give you encouragement and support based on our own experience
- Some national charities, such as MENCAP and the National Autistic Society, have useful helplines.

4. Further information

State benefits: Information about state benefits is available on the government website (www.gov.uk) and on the websites of the major disability organisations.

Local Authority funding: Each local authority has a website which explains how funding decisions are made. This would be a good place to check for the most up to date information.


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Chapter Three

What is Advocacy?

Advocacy in all its forms seeks to ensure that people, particularly those who are most vulnerable in society, are able to:

- Express their views and concerns, and have their voices heard on issues that are important to them, particularly when decisions are being made about their lives
- Defend and promote their rights and responsibilities
- Access information and services
- Explore choices and options.

An Advocate can provide advocacy support to your relative when they need it. Advocates help people access information, go with them to meetings or interviews, write letters on their behalf, or speak for them in situations where they don't feel able to speak for themselves.

Advocates will spend time with them to get to know their views and wishes, and will work closely to the Advocacy Code of Practice.

Advocacy can be offered informally by a friend or family member or more formally through the local authority or an independent advocacy service, such as www.seap.org.uk

Each local authority has links to independent advocacy services on their website. The community will have their details.

Independence

Friends and family, health or social care staff can all be supportive and helpful. Support workers in Camphill communities, as well as families, often act as informal Advocates, but it may be difficult for them if the individual wants to do something they disagree with. If someone wishes to make a decision that others may deem unwise, then an independent Advocate could be extremely helpful. They should represent a person's wishes without judging or giving their personal opinion. A person's capacity will have an impact on their ability to make decisions.

Confidentiality

Unless someone tells their Advocate something of a life-threatening nature, or there are other specific circumstances such as safeguarding the person being supported or others, the Advocate will not tell anyone else what has been said without permission.

Where to go for further information

Look for advocacy information on your local authority website.

Speak to the Camphill community in which your relative lives and ask them for local advice and information.

Chapter Four

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA)

Who is the Act for?

Any person, paid or voluntary, who ‘has care of’ a person who may lack the ability/capacity to make some decisions has a duty to follow the Code of Practice that accompanies this Act.

The Act states that **all** adults must be assumed to be able to make their own decisions, except when it can be proven otherwise.

Within the context of the Act ‘capacity’ is the ability to make a decision. This ability can be affected by various factors.

What is lack of capacity?

A person lacks capacity if they are assessed as being unable to make a specific decision because of their impairment, i.e. a learning disability or disorder.

Five Key Principles of the Mental Capacity Act

1. A person must be assumed to have capacity unless it is established otherwise
2. A person is not to be treated as unable to make a decision unless all practicable steps to help them do so have been taken without success
3. A person is not to be treated as unable to make a decision because they make an unwise decision
4. Any act or decision taken on behalf of

someone lacking capacity must be in the person's best interest

5. Any decision to act should aim to be the least restrictive option to the person in terms of their rights and freedom of action.

The Two Stage test is used to check if people lack capacity

Capacity is specific to a particular decision or time e.g. moving home or having a medical procedure. To test for capacity certain questions need to be asked.

Is there an impairment or disturbance in the functioning of mind or brain?

If so:

Is the impairment or disturbance sufficient to render the person incapable of making that particular decision?

Who can carry out an assessment?

There is no one specific type of person and it could depend on a range of issues e.g. what is the decision; who knows the person best; what is the level of risk?

Certain questions will be asked to enable the assessor to know if the person has capacity.

- Can the person understand the information presented? Do they understand what decision they are making and why?
- Can they retain the information?
- Are they able to understand the information relevant to the decision? Do they understand the consequence of making or not making a decision?

- Can they use or weigh the information as part of the process of making the decision?
- Can they communicate that decision by any means?

*If the answer to **all** these questions is **yes** then the person is deemed to have the capacity to make the decision in question.*

*If the answer to **any** of these four questions is **no** then the person is deemed to **lack*** the *capacity to make the decision in question.*

If the person doesn't have capacity, think about what is in their best interest and continue to involve the person as much as possible.

What happens when a person lacks capacity?

The decision maker must take into account:

- Any past and present wishes, feelings and/or written statements made when the person had capacity
- Any beliefs and values that may influence their decision
- Other factors the person might consider if they were able to do so
- Involve the person who lacks the capacity
- Consult with family, friends and others who know the person
- Assumptions should not be made based on age, appearance, behaviour.

Some important decisions may need a formal process; others may be defined as 'ongoing care' and recorded in a care plan.

What help might someone need to make a decision?

- Provide all relevant information in an accessible way
- Consult with family and other people who know the person well
- Be aware of any cultural, ethnic and religious factors
- Make the person feel at ease
- Try to choose the best time for the person.

Excluded Decisions

Nothing in the Act permits decisions to be made for a person lacking capacity on:

- Marriage/civil partnerships/divorce
- Sexual relationships, adoption, parental responsibilities
- Medical treatment for mental disorder
- Voting rights.

Where to go for further information

Local authorities will have further MCA details on their website.

Each Camphill community will have a Mental Capacity Policy, which should be accessible to families.

Chapter Five

Appointeeship, Lasting Power of Attorney and Deputyship

Appointeeship

You can apply for the right to deal with the benefits of someone who can't manage their own affairs because they lack capacity.

Only one Appointee can act on behalf of someone who is entitled to benefits (the claimant) from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

An Appointee can be:

- an individual, e.g. a friend or relative
- an organisation or representative of an organisation, e.g. a solicitor or local council.

Appointee's responsibilities

As an Appointee you are responsible for making and maintaining any benefit claims. You must:

- sign the benefit claim form
- tell the benefit office about any changes which affect how much the claimant gets
- spend the benefit (which is paid directly to you) in the claimant's best interests
- tell the benefit office if you stop being the Appointee e.g. the claimant can now manage their own affairs.

If the benefit is overpaid, depending on the circumstances, you could be held responsible.

Setting up an Appointeeship

You make contact with the DWP depending on the benefits your relative is receiving.

DWP arranges to visit the claimant to assess if an Appointee is needed.

DWP interviews you to make sure you're a suitable Appointee.

During the interview, you and the interviewer fill out an Appointee application form

If DWP agrees with the application you'll be sent a form confirming you've been formally appointed to act for the claimant. You're not the Appointee until this happens.

Once you're authorised, DWP will monitor the situation to make sure it's still suitable for you and the claimant.

What is a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA)?

The Mental Capacity Act covers Lasting Powers of Attorney and Deputyship.

A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is a legal document that lets your relative choose people whom they trust as Attorneys to make decisions on their behalf about two areas:

a) Finances and Property and

b) Health and Welfare.

Your relative must have capacity to make an LPA.

Remember having capacity means that 'someone has the ability to make a specific decision at the time it needs to be made'.

Please be aware that if your relative wishes to make an LPA the bar is set very low for them to be deemed to have capacity to do so.

Your relative can choose to have both types of LPA or just one. One or more people can be identified to act as Attorneys for each of these areas.

The Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice explains more and gives examples including how Attorneys must act.

Setting up an LPA

How do you put a Lasting Power of Attorney into place? This is done through the Office of the Public Guardian. You can apply online or speak to them for guidance.

Many people can do this themselves, but if you need help to complete an LPA then you may wish to use a solicitor or a legal professional.

Do ask them if this is an area they are experienced in. There is a fee to register an LPA, but there is financial help available towards the cost if you are on a low income, so do ask about fee exemption.

What is a Court Appointed Deputy?

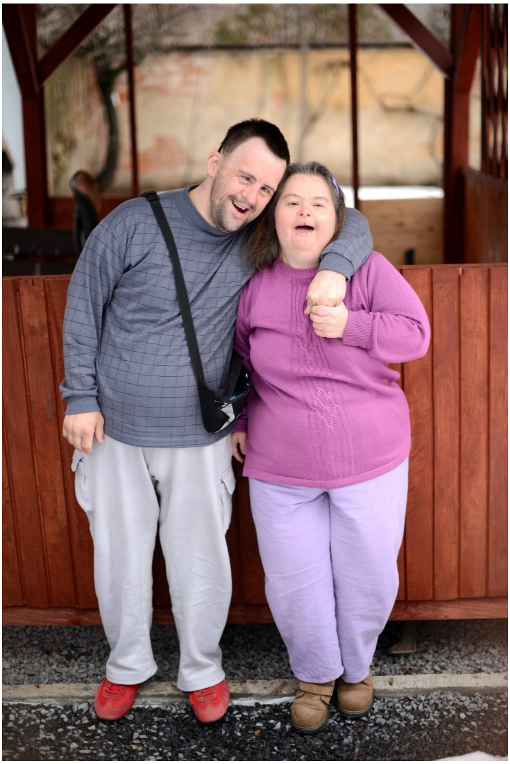
A Court Appointed Deputy can be put into place when someone does not have capacity.

The Court can appoint someone to make decisions for the person. They are called Deputies and can be appointed to make decisions on financial and/or health and welfare matters.

Setting up a Deputyship

An application to the Court of Protection for the appointment of a Deputy must be supported by a medical certificate stating that, in the doctor's opinion, the patient is incapable of managing and administering their property and affairs by virtue of mental disorder.

For comprehensive and accessible information on The Court of Protection go to the Learning Disability England website and search Deputyship and Lasting Power of Attorney.
www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk



Chapter Six

Wills and Trusts

Making decisions about leaving money and possessions to your family member with a learning disability is an important part of planning for the future.

If you are able to leave something, this could provide them with additional choices and flexibility in their life beyond what the community or local authority funding can provide. This should be done in a way that will be recognised in law rather than relying on a sibling, friend or relative to put it in place informally.

Professional advice will be needed if you are:

- Making a Will
- Leaving your property in your Will
- Setting up a Trust. There are various forms of these: Discretionary Trust; Disabled Person's Trust; A (Lifetime) Interest in Possession Trust.

You might set up a Trust:

- to support someone who can't manage their money, so that their needs are looked after, even when you aren't able to help them

For example families may consider Discretionary Trusts because they can be used as a way to:

- leave an inheritance to your relative
- set up a group of people to manage your assets (money or property) for your relative. This could include a friend or sibling.

You should be aware that if your relative is left anything other than a small amount of money outright, without a Trust arrangement, they may lose benefits and the local authority are likely to call on this money to fund their care.

It is important to have professional advice to ensure that your relative's means-tested benefits and care funding will not be affected by any Will or Trust set up in their favour.

How to set up a Trust

The legal wording of a Trust needs to be precise, so you should ask a solicitor to set it up. It can be expensive – around £1,000 or more – but some charities have schemes where they contribute towards the parents' costs of setting up a Trust for a disabled child.

You have to choose people to be your trustees, usually family members or close friends whom you know you can rely on. Think carefully about who to ask, and make sure they're happy to take on the responsibility. You should have at least two trustees, but probably no more than three or four.

Alternatively, you can appoint a company as your trustee, such as a bank or firm of solicitors – but bear in mind they will charge.

How does the local authority treat Trusts?

If your relative needs long term care and is a beneficiary of a Trust the local authority will take into account the income and capital they are entitled to when financially assessing them for their support. How the money in Trust is treated will depend on the Trust's terms.

Absolute entitlement to the capital

If your relative has access to the capital held in the

Trust then this will be treated by the local authority as capital they own.

Absolute entitlement to income

If your relative does not have access to the capital in the Trust but is entitled to receive income from it the capital is disregarded and the income is taken into account.

Absolute entitlement to capital and income

If your relative has access to both the capital and the income in a Trust the value of that income together with the capital are treated as capital they own.

Discretionary Trusts

If your relative only has the right to receive payments from a Trust at the discretion of the trustees the local authority can only take into account the actual payments they receive.

Find a solicitor to draw up a Trust

The Law Societies keep searchable databases to help you find a qualified solicitor near you.

Find a solicitor in:

England and Wales: The Law Society

Scotland: The Law Society of Scotland

Northern Ireland: Law Society of Northern Ireland

Where to go for further information

www.housingandsupport.org.uk/ownership-through-a-discretionary-trust

www.enable-care.org.uk

www.mencap.org.uk

"Every year over 3,000 families come to MENCAP for advice about writing Wills and setting up Trusts for the benefit of a loved one with a learning disability.

MENCAP can help guide you through this complex and frequently daunting area, with the free, unbiased information you need to help your loved one live the best life possible after you pass away".

(Extract from MENCAP website).

Camphill Families and Friends

Camphill Families and Friends (CFF) is a registered charity, membership of which is open to all relatives and friends of Camphill residents.

CFF is a voluntary organisation run by trustees with family members who have benefited from life in a Camphill community.

CFF holds regional meetings on developments within Camphill and changes in social care, to keep members in touch and to provide a platform for their views.

CFF keeps members informed through its news updates and guest articles in Camphill Pages.

Please join us in helping to ensure that choice to live in an intentional community continues to be available to people with learning disabilities and other special needs.

email: info@camphillfamiliesandfriends.com
www.camphillfamiliesandfriends.com

Camphill Families and Friends
Registered Charity No 1078930

www.camphillfamiliesandfriends.com

Camphill Families and Friends

Supports the life and work of the residents of Camphill communities and their families and friends

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Welcome to Camphill Families and Friends

Camphill Families and Friends supports the life and work of people with learning disabilities who live in a variety of Camphill communities and settings, by offering advice, information and partnership to their families and friends.

We work to maintain key Camphill values. Given the constant changes in the world of social care, and the cuts in funding, we try to keep our members in touch with their impact on Camphill communities and on the people living in them. We do this through our website, newsletter and open meetings, and guest articles in Camphill Pages. We liaise closely with many communities and with our members in order to influence change.

Latest News

Join our mailing list

DIARY OF EVENTS 2017

AGM and Open meeting
Saturday 14th October 2017
NCVO Offices, London

Siblings workshop
Saturday 14th October 2017
NCVO Offices, London

Scotland Open Meeting
Saturday 4th November
Quaker Meeting House, Edinburgh

The Camphill Movement is a worldwide network of homes and villages for children and adults with special needs. Inspired by the vision of its founder Karl König, the growth of the Camphill Movement, which began 70 years ago, is the story of an idea about community as a basis for special needs education, therapy, and daily living.

Karl Konig drew many of his ideas from Rudolf Steiner.

> *The healthy social life is found when in the mirror of each human being the whole community finds its reflection and when in the community the virtue of each one is living.*
>
> *Rudolf Steiner*

This guide is intended for family members or friends who take on the role of supporters of people with learning disabilities who live in Camphill communities. There are many aspects to this role and not all will be relevant to you. You might be very familiar with some of them, but other aspects may be new, especially if parents have not shared the responsibility beforehand.

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