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Feb. 8, 2022

To: ODDS Partners and Providers

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Subject: Supported Decision-Making

A new law went into effect on Jan. 1, 2022 regarding supported decision-making. The law requires that Oregon schools must provide information, training, and resources on supported decision-making.

Supported decision-making may be a great alternative to guardianship that allows people with disabilities to make choices about their lives with support from people they trust. This is an approach all people use but is often overlooked. People with disabilities use supported decision-making to identify who they want to support them and how they want to be supported. The support person they choose can help gather information, evaluate options, or help the person communicate their decision to others.

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and Oregon Department of Education have partnered with stakeholders to identify and develop training, information, and resources, on supported decision-making.

ODHS has launched a [new web page](#) with a new fact sheet, brochures and other resources on supported decision-making. The fact sheet and brochures are available in five languages. In addition, there is a [podcast](#) with guests Allison Enriquez from ODDS and Sally Simich from the Oregon Department of Education discussing why supported decision-making is an important alternative to guardianship.

New trainings and resources will be added to the [web page](#) as they become available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty  
Director  
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

*Previous Director's Messages are available at*  
[http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-  
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