

- We all value the right to make decisions for ourselves. Whether we term this autonomy, liberty or independence, it is central to our concept of dignity.
- As difficult as it is to confront these issues, by doing so we can help ensure our wishes are honored in the future.
- Any action you take to plan is completely voluntary. Once you determine your wishes, the next step is relatively simple and inexpensive or free, and can be part of your person-centered planning process.

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MICHIGAN LAW
requires that any Advance Directive is signed by witnesses. The witnesses cannot be immediate family members, not your spouse, not your guardian, not your doctor, not an employee of a hospital or community mental program where you are receiving services or anyone who would get gifts/income at the time of your death. You may have friends, people you know, or neighbors, for instance, sign as witnesses.

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Source: https://www.michigan.gov/mdh-hs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2941_4868_41752---,00.html

You have the right to have this information in a different language, type of print, or form.

If you need this information in a different way or you need any other help, please call: Call Customer Service at LifeWays or Mid-State Health Network (MSHN) for Assistance.

LifeWays

Customer Service

1200 N. West Ave. Jackson, MI 49202
25 Care Dr. Hillsdale, MI 49242
(866) 630-3690

Michigan Relay Center

For Individuals with hearing-impairment, hard-of-hearing or speech-impairment
Dial 7-1-1

Mid-State Health Network (MSHN)

Customer Service

530 W. Ionia Street, Suite F
Lansing, MI 48933
517-657-3011 or 1-844-405-3094
Fax: 517-574-4093

For more information, type “Advance Directives” in the search box at: <http://michigan.gov/mdch>

LifeWays

MSHN
Mid-State Health Network

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

Be prepared. Know your rights.

No one likes to consider the possibility of becoming unable to make decisions even on a temporary basis. An advance directive may become a permanent part of your clinical record. If you want them in your record, make sure your case manager and/or support staff has a copy. The advanced directive does not require a signature by a notary.

If your case manager has a role in your advance directive, a copy of the plan must be in your clinical record. You may change or cancel your advance directive at any time.

Make sure your case manager and/or support staff has the most current copy of your advance directive and let them know of any changes, including if you cancel it. An advance directive is not a requirement to receive treatment services.

You may file a grievance with Customer Service if your advance directive requirements are not followed as written.



LifeWays and the Mid-State Health Network, (MSHN) supports consumers' rights to their own choices for Advance Directives where the 42 C.F.R. 422.128 law allows.

This pamphlet will assist you with what your choices are for medical care and/or psychiatric care and explain how to designate another person(s) to make medical/psychiatric decisions for you in the event you are unable to make these decisions for yourself.

MEDICAL ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

What is a Medical Advance Directive?

A medical advance directive is a legal document that tells healthcare providers what your medical treatment choices are during certain medical emergencies. You create a medical advance directive before a medical emergency happens. Then, if there is an emergency where you are not able to say what treatment you do/do not want, the medical advance directive would state your wishes.

A copy of your advance directive should be kept in your medical/mental health records, at your doctor's office, in your home, and with your patient advocate.

Who Can Have a Medical Advance Directive?

In the state of Michigan, an adult "of sound mind" may have a medical advance directive. So, if you have a guardian, or the court finds you are not able to make your own treatment decisions, you would not be able to have an advance directive.

Michigan law states that certain people may not witness an advance directive on your behalf. This includes guardians, spouses, other family members, healthcare workers or anyone who would get gifts/income at the time of your death.

How Would I Create a Medical Advance Directive?

There are forms that you may use to write a medical advance directive. Your case manager and/or support staff may help you get the necessary forms.

What is a "Durable Power of Attorney?"

A durable power of attorney is a phrase often used with medical advance directives. When you create an advance directive, you may also name who has the power to make decisions for you when you are not able to make decisions for yourself. The person is called an "Agent" or "Patient Advocate." A Durable Power of Attorney is a medical advance directive that states who your Patient Advocate/Agent is and what types of decisions he/she can make on your behalf.

What is a Patient Advocate?

A patient advocate is the person you identify in your advance directive as the one who may make decisions about your medical or psychiatric care if you become unable to make medical or psychiatric decisions for yourself.

Who Can Be My Patient Advocate?

Anyone who is competent, 18 years or older, and does not have a guardian, may be a patient advocate.

Do I have to have a Patient Advocate?

An advance directive is only valid if you named a patient advocate/agent. So, it is required to include your patient advocate when completing the advance directive forms.

PSYCHIATRIC ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

What is a Psychiatric Advance Directive?

A psychiatric advance directive is a legal document that tells healthcare providers what your treatment choices are during psychiatric emergencies. You create a psychiatric advance directive before an emergency happens. Then, if there is a psychiatric emergency where you are not able to say what treatment you do or do not want, the psychiatric directive would explain your wishes.

A copy of your psychiatric advance directive should be kept in your medical/mental health records, at your doctor's office, in your home, and with your patient advocate.

Who Can Have a Psychiatric Advance Directive?

In the state of Michigan, an adult "of sound mind" may have a psychiatric advance directive. So, if you have a guardian, or the court finds you are not able to make your own treatment decisions, you would not be able to have an advance directive.

How Would I Create a Psychiatric Advance Directive?

There are forms that you may use to write a psychiatric advance directive. Your case manager and/or support staff may help you get the necessary forms or you may contact Customer Service for assistance.

If I Want a Medical Advance Directive and a Psychiatric Advance Directive, Can I Make One Document?

Yes. Or you may decide to have one or the other, or no durable power of attorney at all.

