

## REGISTRATION

### Register by:

607-965-8377 ext. 112 (Phone)

607-965-8655 (Fax)

vlooker@pathfindervillage.org  
or mail to:

**The Kennedy♦Willis Center  
on Down Syndrome  
3 Chenango Road  
Edmeston, NY 13335**

**Seating is limited  
RSVP by March 12, 2010**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Title : \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**A cold lunch is available for a fee of \$10.00  
payable day of seminar.**

PV Lunch Desired: \_\_\_ Lunch on my own: \_\_\_



*Kennedy♦Willis Center  
on Down Syndrome*  
Pathfinder Village, Inc.  
3 Chenango Road  
Edmeston, New York 13335-2314

## GUARDIANSHIP AND HEALTHCARE ISSUES FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

**FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2010  
8:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Presented by the  
NY State Commission on  
Quality of Care and Advocacy  
for Persons with Disabilities



In conjunction with the  
**Kennedy♦Willis Center  
on Down Syndrome  
and Pathfinder Village, Inc.**

# GUARDIANSHIP & HEALTH CARE ISSUES FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

## Life Planning for People with Special Needs

will offer parents, guardians and others information on **Advance Directives**: The essential elements of a living will, health care proxy, and, power of attorney, particularly with regard to judging the individual's capacity to sign such documents. **End of Life Decisions**: Who has the authority to make decisions on behalf of an individual with developmental disabilities with regard to the termination of life support? **Guardianship**: Why and How To: The discussion will center on the "pros" and "cons" of an Article 17A guardianship.

## REGISTRATION (8:30 -9:00 a.m.)

### Session 1 - (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon)

#### HEALTHCARE ISSUES

- Informed Consent
- Surrogate Decision-Making Committees
- Health Care Proxies
- Health Care Decisions Act
- Do Not Resuscitate Orders
- Q&A

## LUNCH BREAK (12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m.)

### Session 2 - (1:00 – 2:00 P.M.)

#### GUARDIANSHIP ISSUES

## Q&A WRAP-UP (2:00 – 3:00 p.m.)

This seminar will provide the attendee up to date information regarding issues related to Life Planning for people with Special Needs. Each presentation will give participants meaningful and relevant information for them to use in making decisions regarding their loved ones. An emphasis will be placed on the rights of the individual and how end of life decisions can best be made. The guardianship session will discuss guardianship issues and the 17A guardianship.

## PRESENTERS

### **Eileen Zibell, Esq. - Associate Attorney with the NY State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD).**

Ms. Zibell has worked in OMRDD's Counsel's Office since 1988 and is currently primarily responsible for handling issues related to health care; including informed consent, health care proxies, do not resuscitate orders and the Health Care Decisions Act. A graduate of Albany Law School, she received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Sociology at Fordham University.

### **Patricia W. Johnson, Esq. - Assistant Counsel to the NY State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities.**

Ms. Johnson counsels the State's Surrogate Decision-Making Committee Program enacted under NY Mental Hygiene Law Article 80. SDMC Committees are an alternative approach to the court system for obtaining an informed decision about major medical treatment for clients, or former clients, with mental disabilities in residential facilities and programs operated, licensed, or funded by an office of the

Department of Mental Hygiene. A graduate of Brooklyn Law School, she received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education and Liberal Arts at Syracuse University.

**Paul R. Kietzman, General Counsel for NYSARC, Inc.**, the largest private provider of supports and services to persons with developmental disabilities in New York. Prior to that Mr. Kietzman was the General Counsel to the NY State Office of OMRDD for 27 years, and Assistant Counsel at NYSDSS, where he kept New York's Medicaid State Plan for three years. Mr. Kietzman is a 1967 graduate of Syracuse University, a 1972 graduate of Albany Law School, and served in the US Navy in Viet Nam in the interim. He was admitted to the NY State Bar and the US District Court for the Northern District of New York.

### **William Combes A.C.S.W. Statewide Director of the Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities' Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PADD) and Protection and Advocacy for persons with Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI) programs.**

Mr. Combes supervises eight regional offices which provide legal and non-legal advocacy services. Mr. Combes serves on committees for the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council and the Traumatic Brain Injury Coordinating Council (TBISCC). With over thirty-five years of professional experience, Mr. Combes has been called upon for consultation and training in the areas of guardianship, future planning, general advocacy rights, entitlements and programmatic and administrative assistance for special populations.

