

Become a Volunteer

How do I become a Community Guardianship volunteer?

- Call (631) 439-0480 (Suffolk) or (516) 874-8450 ext. 262 (Nassau)
- Fill out an application
- Schedule an interview
- Participate in Article 81 training



EAC Network's Community Guardianship program is funded by the Suffolk County Department of Social Services.



EAC Network is a not-for-profit human service agency with over 100 programs throughout Long Island and the New York metro area and has been providing human service programs in the fields of aging, youth, families, education, and criminal justice since 1969. Last year EAC Network helped over 65,000 people.

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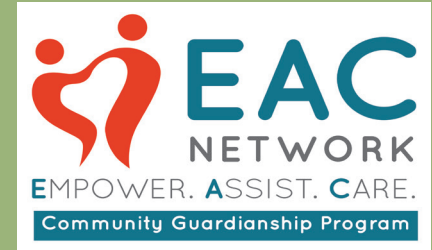
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Ensuring the health and safety of
incapacitated adults.

Community Guardianship Program

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THE COMMUNITY GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM

What is the Community Guardianship program?

The Community Guardianship program works to ensure the health and safety of people who are incapacitated and unable to manage aspects of daily living requirements. Appointed by the Court, EAC Network staff and volunteers serve as advocates and surrogate decision-makers for those individuals appointed to EAC Network's care.

Who are the participants in the program?

The incapacitated adults accepted by this program must be individuals over eighteen years of age who are eligible for and/or in receipt of protective services for adults without a capable friend, relative, or responsible agency willing and able to serve as Guardian.



How does the program work?

Through assessment, comprehensive service planning, regular visits, ongoing support, and reporting to the Court, Community Guardianship ensures that the needs of the incapacitated person are met.

Guardianship responsibilities include a wide range of duties, including property management, assistance with personal needs, and advocacy with medical and social service providers. EAC Network Guardians are sensitive to the needs and wishes of their wards and are responsible stewards of their property.

How are participants assessed and assisted?

- **Home visiting:** Face-to-face contact to assess the physical condition of the individual
- **Service plan:** After the completion of a home visit and the needs of the participant are assessed, a service plan is completed
- **Property management:** Oversight of the financial barriers and needs of the individual
- **Case counseling:** Reviewing needs and providing available and appropriate resources
- **Quality assurance:** Regular meetings to discuss cases and resolve any extenuating issues

What training do staff and volunteers receive?

Staff and prospective volunteers are required to participate in Article 81 training as well as observe an Article 81 guardianship proceeding in court.

Additionally, staff and volunteers

- Discuss Article 81 guardianship and receive an overview of the statute
- Are provided with a case summary of the matter they will be observing and have the opportunity to ask questions and have questions answered by guardianship staff
- Have the opportunity to meet with one of the guardianship Judges
- Are provided with supplemental reading materials

Reports Completed by Program Staff

Staff complete reports that are provided to the Court, Court Examiner, Court Evaluator, and any additional parties named in the court documents. These reports consist of the following documents:

- Oath & Designation
- Commission to Guardian
- Initial Report
- Annual Report
- Testimony
- Final Accounting