



## Supporters

A person (decision-maker) chooses people to help them with certain decisions. These are supporters. With supported decision-making, each supporter gives information, advice, or whatever other support is agreed upon, and the person they are helping makes the final decision. A good supporter respects the wishes of the decision-maker. A good supporter listens and suggests ways to help the decision-maker make their own informed decisions.

**Through a generous grant from the WITH Foundation . . .**

Hope Community Resources, Inc. is able to provide a Supported Decision-Making Specialist to assist people throughout Alaska with creating and processing Supported Decision-Making Agreements. The Disability Law Center has also partnered in preparing the official Supported Decision-Making agreements.



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## Supported Decision-Making Agreements

## What are they?

Supported Decision-Making Agreements are signed documents where supporters commit to provide the information and support in the way a decision-maker needs to make choices in their own lives. These choices could be about where to live, what to do during the day, what kind of career they want to have, how to spend or save their money, when to see a doctor, etc.



## The process is simple . . .

In what areas do you need assistance?

- ◆ Medical
- ◆ Daily care
- ◆ Recreation
- ◆ Employment
- ◆ Financial
- ◆ Legal
- ◆ Communication



Who are the trusted people in your life?

- ◆ Family
- ◆ Friends
- ◆ Clergy
- ◆ Neighbors
- ◆ Co-workers



“I have the dignity to take reasonable risks.”



## Why have a Supported Decision-Making Agreement?

At times everyone needs support to make decisions. Older adults and people with disabilities may need more or different kinds of supports. Having a written agreement with supporters, shows how you make decisions, and makes it clear to everyone that you are getting the support that is right for you.