

The background features a large, semi-transparent magnifying glass centered on the right side. The lens is a light blue-grey color, and the handle is a darker grey. To the left of the magnifying glass, there are several overlapping, flowing, ribbon-like shapes in vibrant colors: red, orange, yellow, and teal. The overall composition is set against a dark, almost black background, creating a sense of depth and focus.

FAMILY MATTERS

A Way to Look at Family and Guardianship that Actually Works



THE OLD WAY OF THINKING





JUSTIFICATIONS



EXCUSES



Naysayers



BUT...BUT...BUT...BUT...BUT

THINK
OUTSIDE
THE
BOX







THE FAMILY
MATTERS...

...MORE THAN THE
PROFESSIONAL
GUARDIAN
DOES!!!

You're Doing it Wrong...

We, the adult children of QB, will not stop pursuing a proper and timely appointment schedule for the care and recovery of our mother, nor allow her to slip through the cracks, due to a lack of answers that our family members have so graciously and reasonably inquired in writing about to you, her guardians. Our mother's forward movement in the system needs to be addressed and resolved by the members of her guardianship team. I fully understand you have other clients whom also need your help, but I urgently request that your team makes our mother's care a priority, as time is not a luxury that she can afford. We need the previously written inquiries we've sent to be answered in writing, so we may follow your guardianship instructions by the letter. We do not want our mother penalized, fined, or worse, for her to pass away because we desperately needed your help in this matter, due to the questions we've posed which are, as yet, left unanswered.

Thank you for your prompt and immediate attention to our mother's concerns and well being. We await a response to the aforementioned emails we've sent from at least someone in charge on QB's guardian team, other than an automated response.

Respectfully submitted,

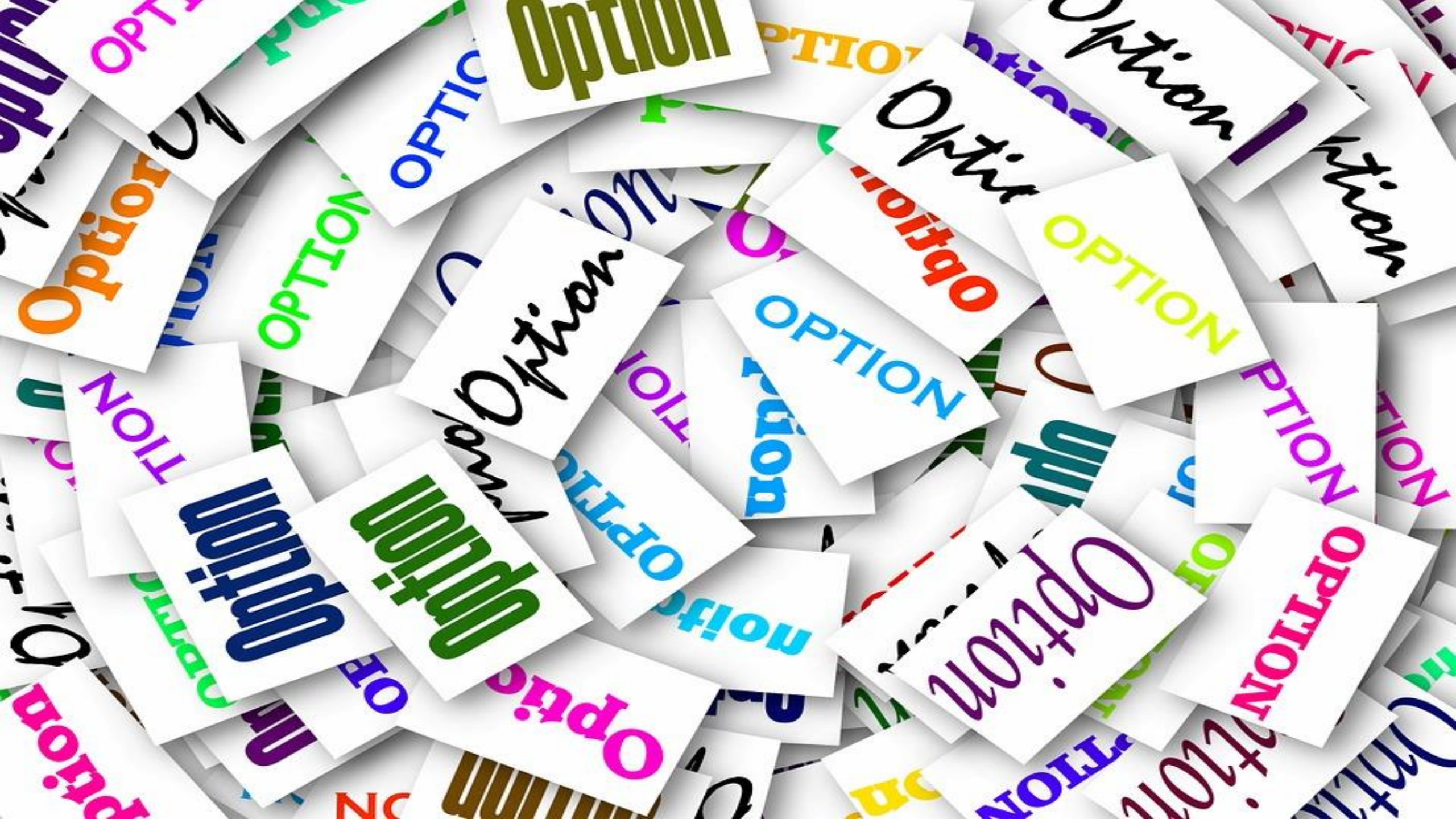


BUT... UMM...
NO...
SORRY... WE
CAN'T **BE** THE
GUARDIAN





EMBRACE THE
INVOLVEMENT





Limited Guardianship

SOME OPTIONS:

Team Approach
Co-Guardianship with Delineated Duties
Teach and Bow Out
Slow Transition
Resource and Help when Needed





EXAMPLES

TEAM APPROACH

To oversee, direct, and support the team that works with [REDACTED] day to day. This oversight includes receiving detailed visit reports and holding team meetings a few times each year;

To communicate with all family members and other persons involved in [REDACTED] day to day life, housing, care, and professional services activities to be sure the services are integrated appropriately;



DELINEATED DUTIES

Family Member Guardian

- [REDACTED] shall be the primary decision maker on all medical matters, including, but not limited to elective, routine and emergency medical procedures, therapies, preventative care services, and changes in medications ([REDACTED] shall confer with both [REDACTED] on any major medical decision, in advance, or immediately after if the medical issue was life threatening; any disagreement between [REDACTED] on medical decisions shall be resolved by [REDACTED] or by court order)
- [REDACTED] shall attend medical, dental, therapy appointments as she determines is necessary and appropriate
- [REDACTED] shall provide day to day supervision of the care providers, including scheduling and shift changes, designating daily routines and tasks, developing meal plans, and planning local events and activities.
- [REDACTED] shall participate in interviewing potential new caregivers and shall train care providers on ongoing and/or new procedures
- [REDACTED] shall manage [REDACTED] household, including arranging for cleaning, yard maintenance, annual maintenance on systems, coordinating van maintenance and repairs, and making recommendations (to [REDACTED] or directly to the Trustee) for repairs, upgrades and new purchases of equipment
- [REDACTED] shall provide updates to [REDACTED], at least weekly, outlining the week's activities and highlighting any changes in [REDACTED] condition, status or plans (informal emails are acceptable)
- [REDACTED] shall be entitled to have independent legal representation at the trust's expense in her capacity as co-guardian of the person.

Professional GDN

- [REDACTED] shall receive and review care giver charting each week and shall communicate with care providers if they have concerns or need support
- [REDACTED] shall have direct, private contact with [REDACTED] no less than quarterly
- [REDACTED] shall have final authority as to hiring of care providers
- [REDACTED] shall provide, monitor and otherwise manage all household and incidentals funds (although [REDACTED] shall retain full discretionary authority over his SSI income)
- [REDACTED] shall have final authority to approve and coordinate interactions with, including visits to or from, [REDACTED] and other family members
- [REDACTED] shall prepare and present all required interim and annual court reports

BOTH

- [REDACTED] shall work together on planning of vacations, social activities, recreation, and special events, including holiday celebrations
- [REDACTED] shall work together to develop and proposed budget to present to the Trustee each year

SLOW TRANSITION

At 90 Days:

Authorizing the Guardian to take steps to integrate Mr. Client's son, Client, Jr., into the day to day coordination of services and decision-making process so that he may be considered as a possible successor guardian of person at the time of the first annual report.



At the Annual Report:

In its initial personal care plan, the Guardian recommended a plan to re-integrate Mr. Client's family back into his day to day life in the hope that this would lead to a recommendation that the family become the successor Guardian of Person for Mr. Client. That plan unfolded over the course of this reporting period...Given the positive outcome of the Guardian's effort to integrate family back into Mr. Client's life (as detailed in this report), the Guardian recommends that the scope of the Guardian's authority should be changed such that Professional Guardian Services should be discharged as the Guardian of Person for Client in favor of his son, Client, Jr., who should be named Successor Guardian of Person effectively immediately.

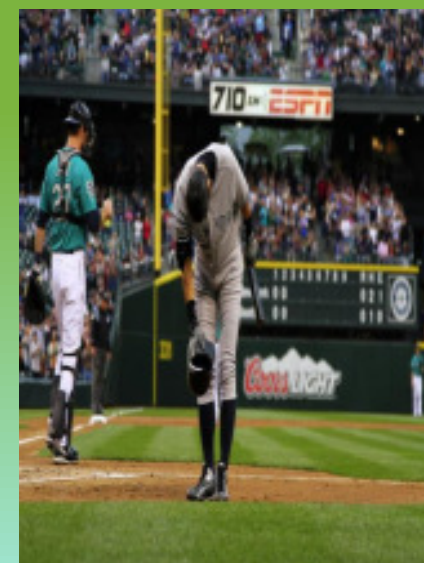
TEACH AND BOW OUT

Mrs. [REDACTED] was very stressed about the situation and was experiencing confusion and fear regarding the guardianship court process and other aspects of Mr. [REDACTED] quickly changing circumstances. Thus, Mrs. [REDACTED] was not able to be responsive enough to those involved at that time, which is reflected in the 2015 GAL report. However, Mrs. [REDACTED]

when decisions need to be made, the current guardian always involves Mrs. [REDACTED] and the facility has significant contact with both Mrs. [REDACTED] and the guardian. She felt that

I had contact with Mrs. [REDACTED] daughter, [REDACTED]. She spoke to her mother's dedication to Mr. [REDACTED] and her mother's progress in becoming more confident and capable as an advocate for Mr. [REDACTED] under the tutelage of [REDACTED] over the past two years.

very supportive and inclusive of Mrs. [REDACTED] involvement in decisions regarding her husband's care. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that having [REDACTED] appointed "was the best thing that could have happened" because of how helpful [REDACTED] has been and how much Mrs. [REDACTED] has learned from her. Mrs. [REDACTED] believes herself to be the right choice to serve as her husband's guardian, and this GAL agrees.



HELP WHEN NEEDED

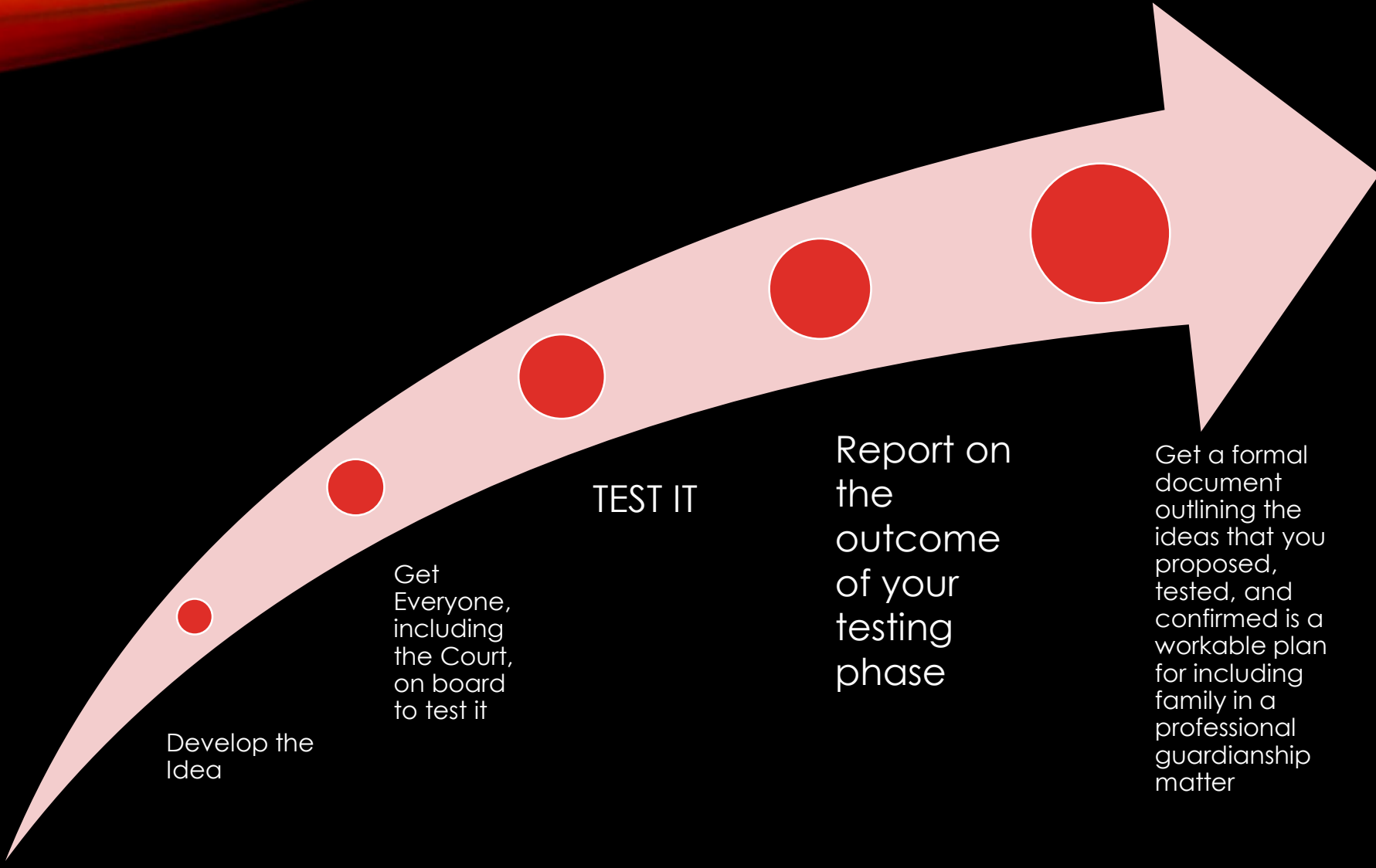
- To assist the Guardian of the Person in completing and filing her triennial reports on the status of [REDACTED]
- To meet with [REDACTED] no less than four (4) times during the reporting year to verify his status and identify any emerging needs (noting the visits do not need to be quarterly by calendar, but should be spread throughout the year);
- To confer with the Guardian of the Person on matters relating to the housing, care and personal needs of [REDACTED] and to provide resources, feedback or advocacy on those issues when necessary and appropriate;
- To provide support, guidance and assistance to the Standby Guardian of the Person, as she may request, when she is filling in for the primary Guardian of the Person.



INCLUSION



GETTING FROM HERE



TO THERE

Develop the Idea

Get Everyone, including the Court, on board to test it

TEST IT

Report on the outcome of your testing phase

Get a formal document outlining the ideas that you proposed, tested, and confirmed is a workable plan for including family in a professional guardianship matter

The background features a large, semi-transparent blue circle in the upper right quadrant. The rest of the image is filled with dynamic, flowing, and overlapping shapes in various colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and cyan, creating a sense of motion and depth. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital.

RECAP AND SUMMARY