How Parents Can Prepare for Their Child’s Special Needs

AGE 0 - AGE 3

☐ Discuss local Early Intervention services with your pediatrician
☐ Learn as much as you can about child’s diagnosis
☐ Research and consult a financial advisor
☐ Determine adequate amount of life insurance in event of caregiver's premature death
☐ Research special needs trust or will

AGE 3 - AGE 18

☐ Research government assistance (SSI and Medicaid)
☐ Establish rapport with neighborhood community, school faculty, and civil services
☐ Review your financial situation: your special needs child, any other children, your own, etc.
☐ Designate legal guardian

AGE 19 - ONWARD

☐ Work with school to learn of any residential or vocational opportunities
☐ Evaluate your child’s decision-making and determine if you need a guardianship for them
☐ Prepare your child to qualify for SSI or Medicaid
☐ Re-evaluate your special needs trust if necessary
☐ Budget for retirement and your child's