

Who are the brothers/sisters below age 18? (Please list their names and ages)

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How many siblings are over age 18? \_\_\_\_\_

How many of these adult siblings do not reside at the address of the family member who is an AHRC member? \_\_\_\_\_

We would like to be able to send future copies of SIB to these family members. If possible, please provide us with their names and addresses.

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\_\_\_\_\_

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

If a sibling would like to receive further information, please contact us through the office of the AHRC Sibling Coordinator, Anne Guthrie, (212) 780-2592, or at the address below.

Thank you for your assistance. Please return to:

AHRC/SIB
200 Park Ave South
N.Y., N.Y. 10003

been close to Tom and is his guardian. Stephanie and Reanna are, successively, next in line as standby and alternate standby guardians. Tom has significant health problems and a communication difficulty which makes it important for someone to be with him when he has to "deal" with the health establishment. He's been in the hospital four times this year already. Because Emily is the guardian, and has always been able to communicate best with Tom, she is finding herself committing the most to him--in time, money and energy. Her work is beginning to suffer and her husband is resenting what Emily is "spending" on and with Tom. He feels that her two sisters can, should and might be willing to help. How does Emily find ways to share the responsibility of helping to look after Tom?

Together, the siblings should work out what each can contribute, and "share the wealth"--as well as the responsibility. If other tasks can be shared, they should be shared.

IS GUARDIANSHIP NEEDED FOR SENIORS ?

Ever since their father died, Henry, who has Down Syndrome, has lived with his brother Jim, who is not Henry's legal guardian. For twelve years, Henry has been a messenger for a local financial institution. In the past two months, his supervisor has

called Jim every week. At first it was to ask if Henry was sick because his behavior was erratic: he was showing up late for work, his deliveries were often slow, and his generally excellent performances had deteriorated. Henry recently spent his entire paycheck in the grocery store, his next one on clothes and, last week, he missed work for two days without calling and then lost his paycheck. Jim is worried as he sees Henry's behavior becoming increasingly inappropriate and sometimes dangerous to himself. Henry's doctor says that it may be time for Henry to retire. He tells Jim that Henry is aging, perhaps experiencing some memory loss and should be more carefully "watched". Should Jim try to become Henry's guardian?

Jim needs to investigate guardianship in light of Henry's difficulty in functioning. Guardianship is a legal proceeding in which a determination is made about Henry's competence to make decisions and handle own his affairs. A more tailored guardianship, as offered in the Article 81, should be explored in this situation.

The information in this Bulletin is for general use only. We recommend that you contact your family lawyer or professional advisor in regard to your individual situation.

A LIST OF ATTORNEYS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT GUARDIANSHIP ISSUES IS AVAILABLE FROM AHRC'S GUARDIANSHIP DEPARTMENT: AHRC GUARDIANSHIP DEPARTMENT 200 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NY 10003 212-780-2730 ALSO, NY STATE COMMISSION ON QUALITY OF CARE 80 MAIDEN LANE SUITE 320B NEW YORK, NY 10038

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Please send us your thoughts on our first SIB BULLETIN. What issues are of greatest importance to you? What suggestions do you have for our future issues? If you know other siblings who would like to receive issues of SIB, please let us know. Thanks!