

## Exercise 2: Who to Choose?



Christine Frank Carl Benjamin Maria

**Carl** is a 20 year-old with an intellectual disability. He has a large family that provides him with support, and he would like to execute at least one supported decision-making agreement. Carl's agreement would say that he wants to receive support for decisions about money, healthcare, and education. There are four family members that he is considering to become his formal supporters in an agreement form.

First is **Maria**. Maria is Carl's mom, who attends his IEP meetings and goes with him to medical appointments. Three years ago, The DC Department of Child and Family Services found that Maria neglected her four year old granddaughter by leaving her at home alone.

1. Under the Disability Services Reform Amendment Act, can Maria become Carl's formal supporter in a *statutory* supported decision-making agreement?
2. Can Maria be his formal supporter in an *educational* (OSSE or DCPS) supported decision-making agreement?
3. What if the neglect finding happened *ten* years ago?

Second is **Benjamin**. Benjamin is Carl's older brother. He also goes to Carl's IEP meetings and is teaching him how to shop at the grocery store. Benjamin has not been found guilty of any crimes, nor has he ever been found to have abused, neglected, or exploited anyone. Benjamin works for the D.C. Department of Health Care Finance, where he writes Medicaid policies. Carl receives Medicaid.

1. Under the Disability Services Reform Amendment Act, can Benjamin become Carl's formal supporter in a *statutory* supported decision-making agreement?
2. Can Benjamin be his formal supporter in an *educational* (OSSE or DCPS) supported decision-making agreement?
3. What if Benjamin was not a relative? Could he be a formal supporter?

Third is **Christine**. Christine is Carl's older sister. Carl's mother would like Carl to list Christine as a formal supporter because Christine is around to help Carl when his mother is not. However, Carl has never been close to Christine and he does not trust her very much. One time he saw Christine, who is not currently working, take money from their mother's purse. He also thinks she is "bossy" because she tells him what to do, and he feels like she does not listen to him. Eight years ago, Christine was convicted of theft over \$1000.

1. Under the Disability Services Reform Amendment Act, can Christine become Carl's formal supporter in a *statutory* supported decision-making agreement?
2. Can Christine be his formal supporter in an *educational* (OSSE or DCPS) supported decision-making agreement?
3. If Christine can become a formal supporter, should she? Why or why not?

Fourth is **Frank**. Frank is Carl's father. He does not live with Carl, but he takes Carl to the bank to show him how to take care of money. About three years ago, Frank developed a substance use disorder.

1. Under the Disability Services Reform Amendment Act, can Frank become Carl's formal supporter in a *statutory* decision-making agreement?
2. Can Frank be a formal supporter in an *educational* (OSSE or DCPS) supported decision-making agreement?
3. If Frank can become a formal supporter, should he? Is there any additional information you would want to know before deciding?