Decision-Making Support Options in North Carolina

**Supported Decision-Making**
- Person makes their own decisions
- Person and team determine and document needed supports
- Person receives support from team when needed
- Can be completed formally or informally

**Advance Directive**
- Person makes their own decisions
- Form documents medical/mental health wishes for others to make for them if incapacitated
- Legal document – can be completed with an attorney but not required

**Representative Payee**
- Person makes their own decisions
- Person receives support to manage state and federal benefits (i.e. SSI, SSDI, etc.)
- Formal process of Representative Payee appointment completed by Social Security Administration

**Power of Attorney**
- Person participates in as many decisions as possible
- Another person makes decisions defined in specific circumstances as documented
- Legal document – typically prepared with assistance from an attorney

**Guardianship**
- Person’s ability to make decisions may be limited
- Legal appointment of substitute decision-maker through court process
- Court ordered relationship to make personal decisions, financial decisions, or both
- Anyone may file a motion to the court for a hearing to restore rights
Additional Resources to Learn More About...

**Supported Decision-Making**
- Autism Society of NC
- First in Families NC
- National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making

**Advance Directive**
- Medical Care Decisions and Advance Directives: What You Should Know
- Secretary of State Forms

**Representative Payee**
- Find your local Social Security Office

**Power of Attorney**
- Secretary of State Forms
- Power of Attorney Form Examples/Options

**Guardianship and Alternatives**
- Types of Guardianship include Guardian of the Person, Guardian of the Estate, and General Guardian
- NC Courts - About Guardianship in NC
  - Find your local Court
- The Arc of North Carolina-Guardianship
- Disability Rights NC-Self-Determination and Guardianship
  - Rights Restoration
  - Rethinking Guardianship

All bolded and underlined items are hyperlinks to websites to locate agencies and gather information.