

Questions?



Who will speak for me
and make sure my
wishes are known?

Who will take
care of my
children?

I don't want to go to
_____ hospital.
How will they know
this?

How will they know what
medications
I don't want to take?

Dr. _____
knows about my illness.
How can I be sure they
talk to her?



SHIAWASSEE COUNTY COMMUNITY
Mental Health Authority

1555 Industrial Drive
P.O. Box 428
Owosso, Michigan 48867

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SHIAWASSEE COUNTY COMMUNITY
**Mental Health
Authority**

**Advance
Directives
for
Mental Health Care**



What you should know

**989.723.6791
800.622.4514
1555 Industrial Dr.
Owosso, MI 48867**

What is an Advance Directive for Mental Health Care?

An **advance directive for mental health care** is also known as a durable power of attorney for mental health care. It is a document in which you give another person the right to make mental health decisions for you if you lose the ability to make those decisions for yourself. This person is called a patient advocate. An advance directive also allows you to make decisions about your mental health care in advance. It is a legally binding document.

Who can have an advance directive? If you are at least 18 years old, you can have an advance directive. You must understand that you are giving another person the power to make certain decisions for you should you become unable to give informed consent. If you have had a guardian appointed to you, then you cannot sign an advance directive.

What types of things can I have in my advance directive?

You can give your patient advocate the power to make those mental health decisions you would normally make for yourself. You can choose the doctor and mental health provider you want to make decisions about your ability to give informed consent. You can choose your therapist, choose which drugs you do or do not want to receive and state the hospital that you think is best for your treatment. It is important to state all of your wishes concerning your treatment. Others cannot follow your wishes if they don't know what they are.

Who can answer my questions about an advance directive for mental health care or help me develop an advance directive?

You may contact your local Community Mental Health Agency:

Joan Durling
Shiawassee County
Community Mental Health
Authority
989-723-6791

or contact
your regional
Customer Service Agency:

Kim Cereski, AAM
Regional Customer Service
Agency
989-497-1329 or
888-212-3689

