

Why Choose CCT?

Our Guarantee:

- › Trustworthy and experienced staff
- › Knowledgeable about rules protecting Medicaid and SSI
- › Greater investment opportunities as the funds are pooled
- › No minimum or maximum funding requirement
- › Prompt disbursements for the sole benefit of the Beneficiary
- › Affordable, comprehensive services with low administrative fees
- › Sensitive to the needs of people living with a disability and their family members
- › Stability as a national nonprofit organization
- › Enrollment for Beneficiaries of any age
- › Work closely with attorneys and other professionals

“By creating a Special Needs Trust for our son with Down syndrome, not only have we helped to ensure more opportunities for him after we are gone, but we also have not made him a significant financial burden for his siblings and relatives. CCT has made the future brighter for everyone in our family.”

Harry & Cynthia Gewanter
Richmond, VA

“I just wanted you to know how helpful the services of Commonwealth Community Trust (CCT) have been to so many clients of my law firm. With the two different special needs trusts (one for family members to use and the pooled disability trust for self-settled funds), CCT provides a great alternative for families who don't want to use other family members as Trustees, for any number of reasons.”

Carolyn A.H. Bourdow, Attorney
Bourdow, Bowen, & Ellis, P.C., Midlothian, VA

Charitable Fund Award

As part of CCT's mission to enrich the quality of life for people living with a disability, the Board of Directors is proud to sponsor the annual Charitable Fund Award. This program offers assistance with the purchase of equipment, medication, or services for individuals with disabilities who demonstrate a financial need.

Applications are submitted on behalf of the recipient by a public agency or nonprofit organization that serves people with disabilities in Virginia.

Visit the CCT website for details, criteria, and the application.

Contact CCT

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**Please consider CCT
for a tax-deductible donation.**



Pooled Special Needs Trust Administration

Security for People with Disabilities since 1990



A National Nonprofit Organization

Why Establish a Special Needs Trust?

A Special Needs Trust (SNT) allows the Grantor, the person establishing the trust, the opportunity to set aside funds that will enrich the quality of life for the Beneficiary living with a disability. An SNT is for a Beneficiary who can benefit from trust administration services including investment and management of the funds. Disbursements are for the sole benefit of the Beneficiary.

Establishing an SNT will protect eligibility for Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). A monetary gift, personal injury settlement, or inheritance can disqualify the Beneficiary from receiving these benefits unless the funds are placed in an SNT.

How Can CCT Provide Assistance?

CCT administers the following types of pooled trusts:

- **Third-Party Special Needs Trust** - funded by a family member or friend, and can be coordinated with an estate plan or life insurance policy.
- **Self-Funded Pooled Disability Trust** - funded by the person with a disability, usually as a result of a personal injury settlement, inheritance, or Social Security back payment.



How Can Funds from the Trust be Used?

CCT utilizes knowledge and compassion about each Beneficiary's needs and circumstances when reviewing disbursement requests and takes the following criteria into consideration:

- Whether the request is for the sole benefit of the Beneficiary
- Whether benefits such as SSI and Medicaid would be jeopardized
- Whether the request is prudent
- Whether the request is consistent with the intent of the Grantor

The trust can be used to pay for expenses that will enhance the quality of life for the Beneficiary. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Medical and Dental Services not covered by insurance and/or Medicaid
- Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids, and Prosthetic Devices
- Burial Plot and Pre-paid Burial Expenses
- Computer and Internet Services
- Educational Expenses
- Television and Telephone
- Clothing
- Home Improvements and Furniture
- Caregiver Expenses
- Vehicle

How are the Funds Managed?

CCT's Board of Directors selected The Trust Company of Virginia, a federal chartered financial institution with trust powers, to manage and invest the funds. The funds are pooled for investment purposes and to keep administrative fees low. A financial record is maintained for each sub account. Financial information is available online, or a statement is mailed quarterly.

About CCT

Commonwealth Community Trust (CCT) is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit organization established in 1990 by parents who have a child with a disability along with concerned professionals. The mission of CCT is to administer Special Needs Trusts so that people with disabilities and their loved ones can plan for their financial future. CCT is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of at least two members who are related to an individual with a disability, legal and financial professionals, and experts who work in the disabilities field.

Visit www.trustCCT.org for enrollment documents, FAQs, and additional information about establishing a trust.

