

Establishment of Authorized Designees of DDSN for Health Care Decisions and Responsibilities

When a person who is eligible for DDSN services under the categories of Intellectual Disability/Related Disability (ID/RD) and is receiving DDSN-sponsored residential services is, in accordance with the Adult Health Care Consent Act, certified to be unable to consent to or refuse health care and when no other authorized person identified by the statutory list of priorities is reasonably available, willing, or able to make the health care decision, an authorized designee of DDSN may do so.

Authorized designees of DDSN include:

- DDSN State Director,
- DDSN Regional Center Facility Administrators,
- Executive Directors of DSN Boards
- Executive Director/CEO of DDSN Qualified Provider Agencies

In keeping with S.C. Code Ann. § 44-26-50 (2018), when making a health care decision, the authorized designee of DDSN shall be informed of:

- The need for the health care,
- The alternative treatments, and
- The nature and implications of the proposed health care.

The authorized designee of DDSN shall consult with the attending physician or the health care professional proposing the health care before making the decision and, when feasible, shall observe or consult with the person who has been certified to be unable to consent to or refuse the proposed health care.

The authorized designee of DDSN shall document their compliance with the requirements noted herein and shall include the name of the attending physician or health care professional proposing the health care with whom the authorized designee of DDSN consulted and the date of the consultation. Documentation of the consultation shall be in the person's record.