

## Influences on Decision-Making

### Client Wishes

*There are times when a client who has capacity is making a decision that you feel is harmful.*

- ❖ How do you determine if your client understands the consequences of his/her choice?

- ❖ What techniques might be helpful to engage a client who is making a choice, which puts him/her at risk?

### Professional Obligations

*There may be times when your ethical assessment and plan of action comes into conflict with that of your supervisor, administrator, or legal directive.*

- ❖ What strategies can you use to deal with the differences between your view and that of your supervisor or administrator?

- ❖ How do you support your assessment? When/how do you compromise?

**Personal Values and Boundaries**

*There are times when certain clients, family members, or situations push your buttons and may interfere with your ability make ethical judgments regarding the situation at hand. There also may be times when your boundaries become too loose or too rigid.*

- ❖ How do you know when your values (cultural, religious, ethnic) or gut reactions are getting in the way of your work with/on behalf of your client?

- ❖ What strategies can you use to maintain objectivity and clear boundaries?

**Community Pressure**

*Oftentimes outsiders, community agencies, and family members feel that they know the best decision to be made for your client.*

- ❖ What positive strategies can you use to deal with other agencies?

- ❖ What strategies can you use to deal with family members? What action can you take when family members disagree with each other regarding the plan of action for your client?