

NEEDS & RESOURCES

# Providing for an Individual with Special Needs

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The planning necessary for individuals with special needs and their families can require an additional amount of care and consideration, but it does not need to be overwhelming. However, it is important to begin the planning process as soon as possible. You will want to take steps to ensure that the appropriate amount of assets and income are in place to provide your loved one with the best quality of life possible.

During the planning process you will need to consider the sources of income as well as estimate possible expenses of the individual with special needs. Sources of income may include the proceeds of a legal settlement, salary/wages, or government benefits. Expenses may include food and housing, transportation, recreational activities, education, medical expenses, therapy, specialized care, etc. Depending upon the circumstances, many of the basic expenses such as food, housing and certain medical expenses may be provided by government benefit programs such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Medicaid. These programs can often help provide the primary financial support for the individual whose disabilities prevent them from achieving self-sufficiency.

In addition to considering all of the sources of income and expenses, there will be a number of additional factors to consider before you can identify the lifetime need of the individual. The factors include:

- An estimate of the number of years of care the individual will require;
- The anticipated rate of inflation during the individual's lifetime;
- The estimated after-tax rate of return on available assets; and
- The income and assets that will be available for the individual's care.

Based upon your assumptions, an estimate of the lump sum you may need to preserve your loved one's quality of life can be determined.

## Special Needs Analysis

An analysis has been prepared projecting the amount of assets you would need today in order to fund the future expenses of the individual with special needs, based on the following assumptions:

- The number of years needed to provide care is 20.
- Annual expenses are estimated as \$137,000.
- Average 5% return on investment.
- Average 3% rate of inflation.
- Monthly sources of income (SSI, etc.) of \$792 (\$9,504 annually).

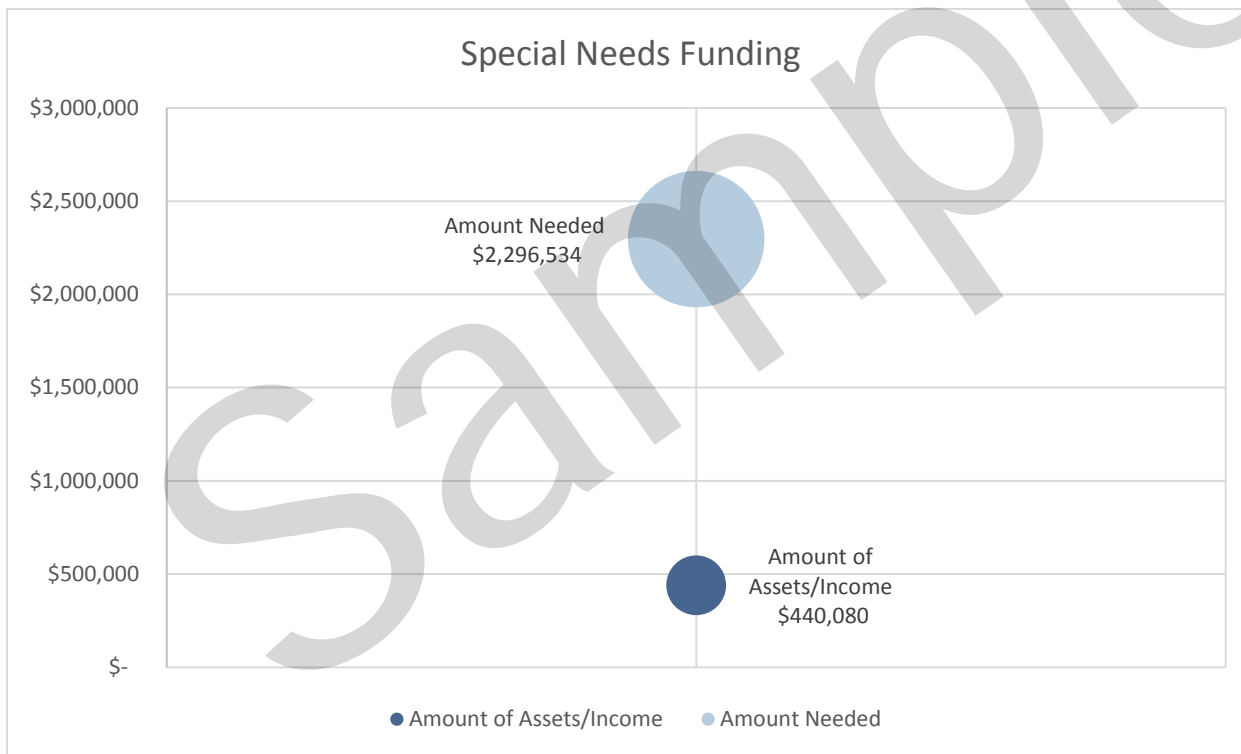
# Providing for an Individual with Special Needs (continued)

Based on these assumptions, the current amount needed to fund the care of the individual with special needs for 20 years would be \$2,296,534.

- The individual with special needs currently has \$250,000 available to help fund their care needs.

The gap between the current assets and the amount needed to fund the care for the individual with special needs for 20 years would be \$1,856,454.

Amount Needed	Amount of Assets/Income	Gap Amount
\$2,296,534	\$440,080	\$1,856,454



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