



# Advance Directives: Handle your care decisions before it's too late.



## You have the right to make care decisions even when you can't speak for yourself.

You can do this by making an Advance Directive. This is a written or oral statement that is made and witnessed in advance of illness or injury. It tells others how you want health care decisions made when you are not able to make them yourself.

Kansas law allows two types of Advance Directives:

- Living Wills.
- Durable Power of Attorney for health care decisions.

### Living Wills.

A Living Will states the kind of health care you want or do not want if you are not able to make your own decisions. It is called a Living Will because it takes effect while you are still living. You may wish to talk to a lawyer or provider to be sure your wishes are clear.

### Durable Power of Attorney.

A Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care lets you name someone to make medical decisions if you cannot speak for yourself. This can include decisions about life support. The person you appoint is called an agent. He or she can speak for you at any time you are unable to make your own decisions, not just at the end of your life. The Power only takes effect when the adult is disabled unless it states that it should take effect earlier. The document can also state any treatment you want to avoid.

## You can find information and forms on Advance Directives on our website.

Visit [UHCCommunityPlan.com/ks/medicaid/community-plan/member-information/](https://UHCCommunityPlan.com/ks/medicaid/community-plan/member-information/) and click on Advance Directive/Power of Attorney Forms. You will find a link to the State of Kansas website with more details.

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