

Estate Planning Essentials:

5 Tips to Protect What Matters Most

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A Strong Plan Starts With Five Decisions

1. **Your will** - Record your wishes
2. **Beneficiaries** - Keep designations current.
3. **Health care** - Choose a trusted decision-maker
4. **Finances** - Plan for incapacity
5. **Your Legacy** - Give with intention.

- **Tip 1: Understand Why Having a Will Matters.** A will gives you a way to document your intentions. Without one, the result may not reflect what you would have chosen.

A Practical Next Step: If you do not have a will, begin the conversation. If you do, confirm that it still reflects your wishes.

- **Tip 2: Review Your Beneficiary Designations.** Beneficiary choices can become outdated as life and relationships change. A periodic review helps keep your plan aligned with your intentions.

A Practical Next Step: make a list of your current designations and flag anything that may need to be updated.

- **Tip 3: Choose a Healthcare Decision-Maker.** A healthcare power of attorney allows you to identify someone you trust to make health care decisions if the need arises.

A Practical Next Step: Choose the right person, discuss your wishes, and make sure the document is in place.

- **Tip 4: Plan for Financial Decision-Making.** A financial power of attorney can authorize someone you trust to act and may help reduce the need for court involvement.

A Practical Next Step: Consider who is dependable, organized, and appropriate for the responsibility.

- **Tip 5: Plan the Legacy You Want to Leave.** Legacy planning can include charitable giving that supports organizations you care about, including HopeHealth.

A Practical Next Step: Identify what you want your plan to express - not only what you want it to distribute.

Next Steps to Protect Your Future:

Ready to transform your planning intent into immediate action?

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