

# The Gold Standard. Our Promise to You.

*Why Trust PrePlan Funeral Trust*



# The NYS Funeral Directors Association (NYSFDA)

- Founded in 1889, NYSFDA is among the oldest US associations of funeral directors
- Member licensed Funeral Directors are **compassionate experts** who can assist you with planning a memorial service for a loved one or making your own arrangements for the future
- All members adhere to an enforceable **Code of Ethics**



# PrePlan Funeral Trust

- For 35 years, PrePlan has partnered with **NYSFDA member funeral homes** to provide services designed for families across New York State
- As the **state's leading pre-funded funeral trust administrator**, they understand the needs and concerns of NYS consumers
- When arranging and funding your funeral, **you want to be sure your funds are safe, secure, and compliant**



# Why Trust PrePlan

- Funds are **100% government-backed** and each investment decision is considered carefully
- Quarterly audits conducted by an independent firm **ensures all investments are fully secure and compliant**, checks and balances are in place, and all legal requirements are met
- Accredited by the Better Business Bureau, PrePlan proudly holds an **A+ rating** and is a 2022 recipient of the **BBB Torch Award for Ethics**



# Why Trust PrePlan

- **Knowledgeable and experienced staff** available to participating funeral homes
- Backed by NYSFDA, they have a deep understanding of the funeral and memorial planning process and **participating member firms adhere to an enforceable Code of Ethics**

# Prearranging Your Funeral

- Whether for you or a loved one, preplanning a funeral is **an important decision**
- By preplanning funeral arrangements you're **relieving your loved ones of the burden** of making those decisions at a stressful time
- It also allows you to **record your wishes** to ensure you receive the funeral service and disposition (burial, cremation, etc.) you want

# Why Prearrange Your Funeral?

- Make **personal and specific selections** for the funeral service that most closely meets your preferences and reflect your life's story
- Prevent your loved ones from **second-guessing your wishes** after you die
- Take the time to **research** funeral homes, disposition options, and financial considerations
- When you **set aside funds** for final expenses, you're relieving family members of an unexpected financial cost

# Why Work with a Licensed Funeral Director?

- We're **licensed professionals** educated and trained to arrange and carry out all aspects of a funeral service
- We're **community residents** with strong relationships with local churches and houses of worship
- We're **compassionate experts** ready to guide you through the grieving process
- As **local businesses**, we have deep ties to the community



# How to Prearrange Your Funeral

- Select a Funeral Home of your choice
  - Ask friends, family, neighbors for recommendations
  - Visit [my.nysfda.org/FindaFH](https://my.nysfda.org/FindaFH) to search for member firms across the state
- Schedule a Prearranging Session with a licensed Funeral Director
- Consider how **you** want to be remembered
  - Religious elements, special readings, music selection, special photos and mementos

# How to Prearrange Your Funeral

- You will receive an explanation of services & funeral merchandise offered. The licensed Funeral Director will review their **General Price List**
- Select services and merchandise based on your personal preferences
- You'll receive a copy of your prearrangement

**Note:** when **prefunding**, your licensed Funeral Director will review payment options

# Why Prefund Your Funeral

- Spare your loved ones the **unexpected cost** of a funeral during a highly emotional time
- **Consider options** at your own pace to make sound, fiscally-responsible decisions
- Medicaid/SSI recipients may set aside money to fund the funeral service of their choice as a part of the **“spend-down” process** to meet eligibility limits
- Prevent life insurance policies from being depleted at the time of death

# NYS Pre-Need Laws

- **Strongest** consumer protection in the country
- Funds must be deposited into an interest-bearing account within **10** business days
- No fee for meeting and prearranging
- You must receive an **annual written statement** detailing all account activity and interest earned
- As the purchaser:
  - You **remain in control** of the preneed account until death
  - You may change arrangements or choice of funeral home **at any time**

# NYS – Irrevocable Accounts

- Any person applying for **Medicaid/SSI** can set aside funds for the sole purpose of paying their funeral/burial expenses – as well as the funeral/burial of **immediate family members**
- NYS law requires **100% of these funeral/burial funds** be placed in an **Irrevocable Trust Account**
- Part of the spend-down process to Medicaid/SSI eligibility

# NYS – Irrevocable Accounts

- **Must** be used for the funeral/burial
- **No refunds** - excess funds after funeral expenses must be returned to the county
- May choose a different funeral home at any time

# NYS – Revocable Accounts

- Both the deposit and interest is fully refundable
- After funeral expenses are paid, excess funds are returned to the purchaser or estate

# After You Prefund

- The Funeral Director **must** deposit funds into an interest-bearing account at a bank or trust within **10** business days
- With PrePlan:
  - You'll receive a **deposit acknowledgement within 30 days**
  - Any time you make a deposit, you'll receive a **confirmation statement** in the mail
  - You can **request your account balance**, including interest, any time
  - **Year-end tax statements** detailing account activity will be **mailed by January 31 of each year**



# After You Prefund

- Keep copy of prearrangement documents in **a safe and easily accessible** place
- **Tell loved ones** about your prearrangements and where documents are kept

# Prearranging: Providing Peace of Mind



# More Information

- Visit [www.preplan.org](http://www.preplan.org), [www.nysfda.org](http://www.nysfda.org) & [www.goodatgoodbyes.com](http://www.goodatgoodbyes.com)
  - Articles
  - Resources
  - List of local funeral homes
- Call/visit your local funeral home