

## ***Morgan K. Whitlatch***



### ***Legal Director Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities***

Morgan K. Whitlatch is the Legal Director of Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities, an independent, non-profit advocacy organization that has been advancing the interests of D.C. residents with developmental disabilities since 2002. She also serves as the Lead Project Director of the National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making (NRC-SDM), which is dedicated to advancing the “Right to Make Choices” of people with disabilities and older adults.

Ms. Whitlatch has devoted her legal career to working with and on behalf of people with disabilities and older adults in matters involving capacity, guardianship and alternatives, and the right to self-determination; community integration; living life free from abuse and neglect; and accessing public benefits and services. She has extensive experience in implementing systemic policy, practice, and training initiatives, including those of the NRC-SDM and the Jenny Hatch Justice Project (JHJP). Notably, Morgan co-represented the JHJP namesake, an adult with Down syndrome, in fighting for her right to engage in Supported Decision-Making as an alternative to permanent plenary guardianship. Under Morgan’s leadership, JHJP also represented the first senior in D.C. to have her guardianship terminated in favor of Supported Decision-Making. Ms. Whitlatch also served as Project Director under a cooperative agreement with the National Council on Disability that led to its ground-breaking March 2018 report, *Beyond Guardianship: Towards Alternatives That Promote Greater Self-Determination for People with Disabilities*. Prior to joining Quality Trust in 2009, Morgan was an attorney at the Rhode Island Disability Law Center, which is the state’s protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities. Morgan has been recognized by Georgetown University, Human Rights Action - Amnesty International, as making outstanding contributions through her work as a human rights practitioner, and she is a member of the Disability Rights Bar Association.

Ms. Whitlatch graduated with honors from Georgetown University Law Center; and with honors, Phi Beta Kappa, from Wesleyan University.