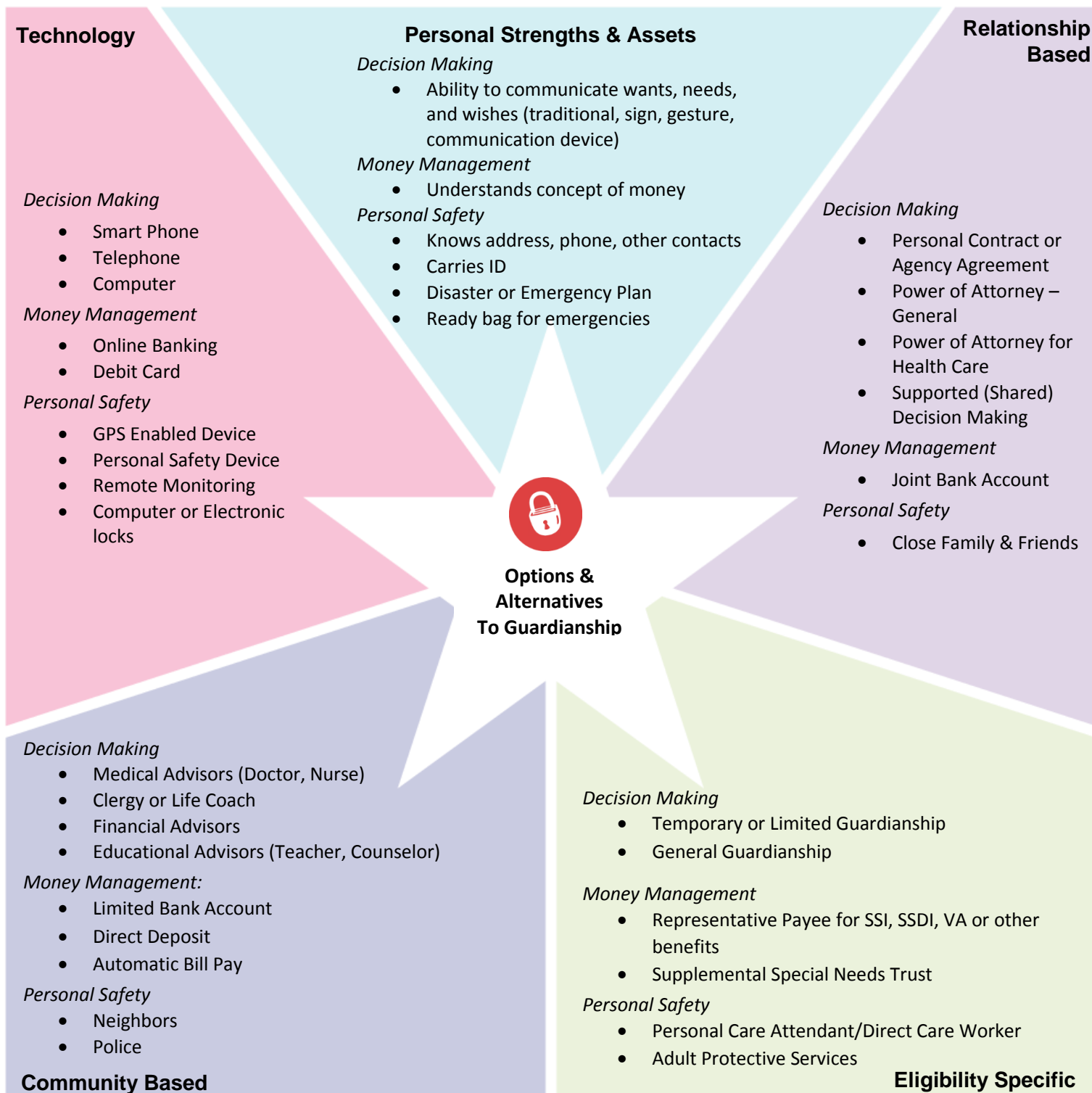


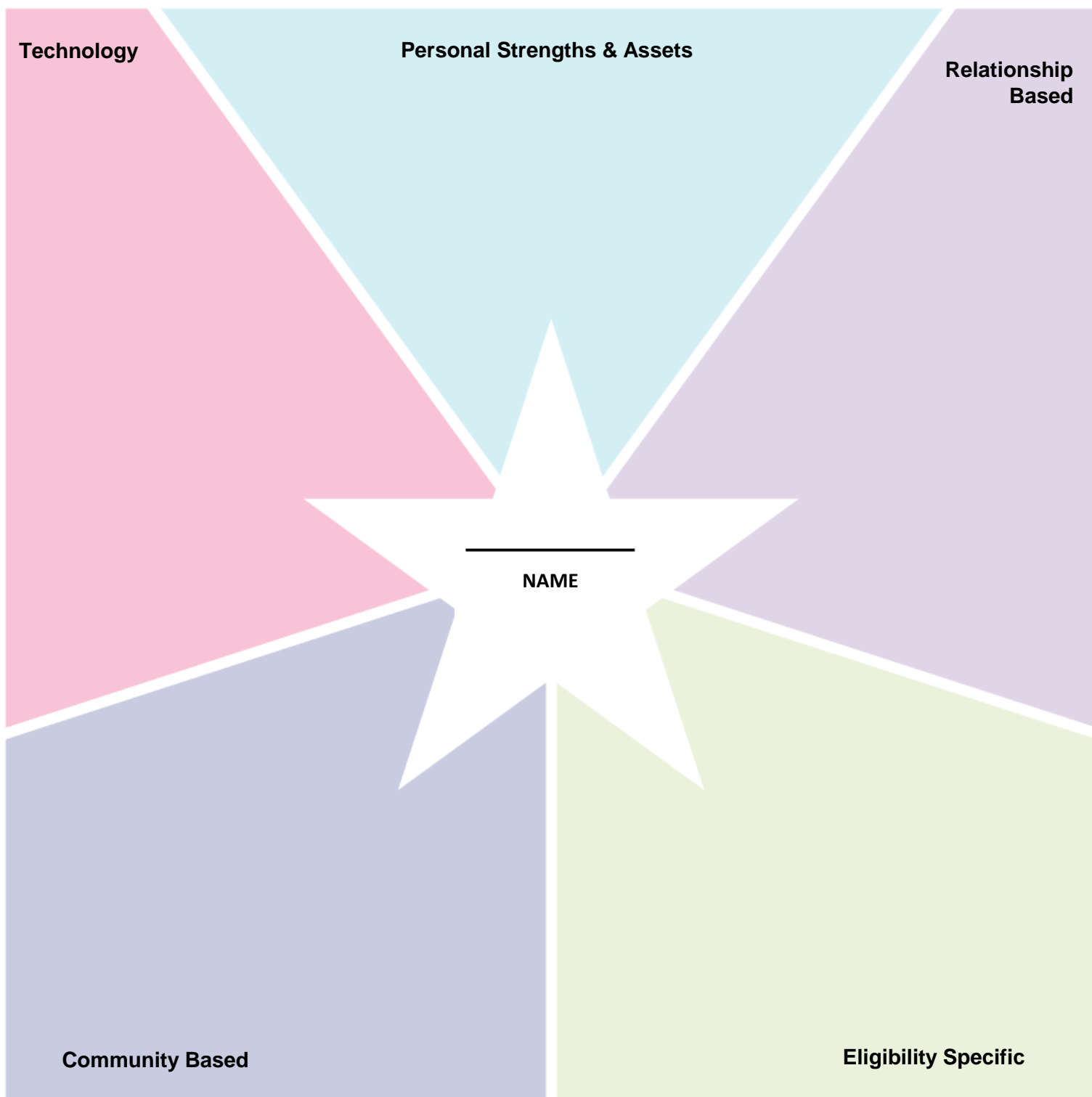
# Options & Alternatives to Guardianship

When a person turns 18, they are presumed competent to make decisions about their life. Sometimes, a person might need some help making decisions and staying safe. We all do, but we call it “advice.” This Star Tool shows some of the ways people can be supported to be safe and secure while living an inclusive community life. You can personalize this for your family member to help you think about what options may work best for your family. You can use this tool in combination with the Stop Light Tool. When you identify an area in which a person may need supports, the Star will help you brainstorm options beyond guardianship. Remember to start with the person’s strengths and see what help is available through your family’s relationships, the community and technology, before you turn to more restrictive options like guardianship.



# Options & Alternatives to Guardianship

For \_\_\_\_\_



This tool was adapted by the DC Department on Disability Services, in partnership with the DC Supporting Families Community of Practice, from tools developed by University of Missouri-Kansas City Institute for Human Development, University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (2015). (Last revised 2-2016)