Get Connected with DRI WIPA

After DRI WIPA receives a referral, a CWIC will contact the beneficiary to further discuss their individual employment goals and the process for WIPA services:

1. Beneficiary completes and submits program documents.

2. CWIC verifies information needed to understand the individual's benefits.

3. CWIC, beneficiary, and other members of the beneficiary's employment support team meet to discuss next steps.

4. CWIC writes a Benefits Summary & Analysis (BS&A) outlining how the beneficiary's employment goal will impact their current benefits and eligibility for other benefits.

5. CWIC, beneficiary, and the employment support team meet to review the BS&A and develop a follow-up plan for future critical touch points.

Beneficiaries in Iowa or northwest Illinois interested in getting connected with DRI's WIPA program should contact the Ticket to Work (TTW) Help Line at (866) 968-7842 (Voice) / (866) 833-2967 (TTY) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET. TTW Representatives provide general information about how work affects Social Security benefits, evaluate an individual's eligibility for WIPA services, and provide a direct referral to DRI WIPA staff.

Disability Rights Iowa
LEGAL PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

Our Mission
Advocating for justice. Advancing human and legal rights. Protecting Iowans with disabilities.

Our Vision
Disability Rights Iowa strives for a changed world where people with disabilities are valued and fully included in their communities, workplaces, and schools, have equitable access to all opportunities, and can make their own decisions.

Contact Us

Phone: 515-278-2502 Relay 711

Toll-Free: 800-779-2502

Fax: 515-278-0539

Email: info@driowa.org

Website: disabilityrightsiowa.org

Twitter and Instagram: @D_R_Iowa

Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube: Disability Rights Iowa

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LEGAL PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance - WIPA

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) is a grant-funded program from the Social Security Administration (SSA) that provides individualized benefits planning to beneficiaries who are:

- Receiving a Title II Disability Benefit, including Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Childhood Disability Benefit (CDB), and Disabled Widow/Widower's Benefit (DWB), or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Due to a Disability,

- At Least 14 Years Old But Not Yet Reached Full Retirement Age, **AND**

- Interested In, Actively Looking For, or Already Engaged in Work Through Wage Employment or Self-Employment.

Disability Rights Iowa (DRI)'s WIPA project is staffed with Community Work Incentives Coordinators (CWICs) who are certified to provide benefits counseling to SSA disability beneficiaries in Iowa and 34 counties of Northwest Illinois.

CWICs support disability beneficiaries through distance-based technology (i.e., phone and online platforms like Zoom) to increase the accessibility of our services.

What Can WIPA Do For Disability Beneficiaries?

- Verify SSA Disability Benefits, Health Insurance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Housing Assistance Programs (HUD), and Veterans Administration Benefits

- Connect with Support Services to Overcome Employment Barriers

- Clarify How Paid Employment will Affect All Federal/State/Local Benefits

- Identify Potential Work Incentives

- Explain How to Report Wage Information to Social Security and State Agencies

- Assist Beneficiaries with Managing Benefits Over Time

- Analyze Healthcare Coverage Options

- Resolve Benefits Problems

The program aims to improve employment outcomes and increase economic self-sufficiency for Social Security disability beneficiaries through their understanding of how employment can be an option for them.

Individuals interested in learning more about DRI's WIPA project or who are currently receiving WIPA services can contact DRI WIPA at (515) 278-2502 Relay 711.

DRI's WIPA project is excited to support your employment journey towards financial independence!