

The LINK

Changing Lives.

Changing Communities.

A Publication of Disability Network Southwest Michigan

Reporting Wages When You Receive SSI Just Got High-Tech

You Might Qualify to Report your Earnings with a Smartphone App

The SSI Mobile Wage Reporting application allows reporting of the total gross monthly wages for the prior month using a mobile device. Wage reporters can download and install the free application on an Apple or Android mobile device.

Who can use this option? Only individuals receiving SSI meeting specific criteria can use this option. Please contact your local Social Security office to see which wage reporting option is best for you.



Receive SSI Wage Reporting reminders by text or email

Did you know you can sign up online to receive a monthly e-mail or text message 'SSI Wage Reporting Reminder' from the Social Security Administration? Never forget to report earnings again! Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/ssiwagereporting to get signed up.



Did Your Income Change When Minimum Wage Increased in September?

Minimum wage in Michigan has increased from \$ 7.40 an hour to \$ 8.15 an hour. If you work and receive SSDI or SSI benefits and are not sure how the increase in your paycheck will impact your benefits, our Social Security Work Incentives Benefits Counselors can help answer your questions. Call us at (269) 345-1516.

Two Office Locations

2900 Lakeview Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 985-0111

517 E. Crosstown Pkwy
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 345-1516

*This issue is available
in alternative format
upon request.*

www.dnswm.org

Disability Network is the first stop for people with disabilities and their families in Southwest Michigan.

OCTOBER

22

Workshop:**Disabilities and Domestic Violence Training for Service Providers****October 22, 2014 (Kalamazoo County)**

This workshop will provide information to service providers on the dynamics of domestic violence as well the prevalence of domestic violence amongst those in the disability community. This training will give service providers tools to use in screening for domestic violence when a disability is present. Workshop will be from 9:00 to 11 am at the YWCA of Kalamazoo, 353 E. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. For more information or to register, contact Cheree at cthomas@ywcakalamazoo.org or at (269) 385-2869.

**eliminating racism
empowering women**

ywca
kalamazoo

OCTOBER

24

Workshop:**Public Transit in Benton Harbor****October 24, 2014 (Berrien County)**

Join us and other partners from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm at Michigan WORKS!, 499 Main Street in Benton Harbor to learn about the services Twin Cities Dial-a-Ride offers, who to call if you have a problem, who makes decisions about bus service in Benton Harbor, and how you can best advocate for better service. Contact Joanne if you have questions or need a ride at johnsonj@dnswm.org or (269) 982-7761.



NOVEMBER

19

Workshop:**Rethinking Guardianship****November 19, 2014 (Kalamazoo County)****5:30 pm - 8:30 pm.**

Join us as we co-host this event with The ARC/ Michigan, The ARC/Community Advocates, Michigan Family Voices and Michigan Alliance for Families. This workshop is for families whose child has a developmental disability, as well as service providers working with students and their families. This workshop covers guardianship from a historical perspective, strangers as guardians, and alternatives. Register with Kanika Littleton by email at kanika@michiganallianceforfamilies.org or at (269) 364-6317.

For the safety and accessibility of everyone, please do not wear perfumes, colognes, or scented products to events. Thank you!

Free!

**Rethinking Guardianship-
Facilitating Life-Long Self Determination**
with Dohn Hoyle, Executive Director of Arc Michigan

**Wednesday, November 19, 2014
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm**
(Sign-in opens at 5 pm)

**The Arc Community Advocates
Emerald Drive Non-Profit Campus
3901 Emerald Drive
Kalamazoo, MI 49001**

This workshop is for families whose child has a developmental disability, as well as service providers working with students and their families.

This workshop covers: guardianship from a historical perspective, strangers as guardians and alternatives

- How can I advocate for my adult child?
- What are alternatives to guardianship?
- What is power of attorney?
- How can medical and financial decisions be handled?
- How can we best support students as they transition to adulthood?

Michigan Alliance for Families
Information Education Support
www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org

The Arc
Michigan

DISABILITYnetwork
Michigan


The Arc
Community Advocates

All workshops are free and open to the public. Coordinated by Michigan Alliance for Families.

Funded by Michigan Department of Education and U.S. Department of Education.

Register by 11-12-14 with Kanika Littleton
(269) 364-6317 kanika@michiganallianceforfamilies.org
Or online at www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/rsvp

Please note: To be good stewards of our funding resources, we need a minimum number of participants registered by the registration deadline for the presentation to be held. If it is after the deadline and you haven't registered, please call or email to check the status of the event. **If you require accommodations or materials in an alternative format, please let us know one week before the workshop.**


Sign up now with
our online
registration form.

1st Annual Ramp-A-Thon Raises Funds to Increase Access and Independence

As we celebrated Access for Everyone at the 24th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 25th, we were excited to kick-off the first annual Ramp-A-Thon, a fundraising campaign to support Disability Network's Ramp Up program. The Ramp Up program is intended to ensure access for everyone and improve the quality of life for people with disabilities through an increase in independence by constructing ramps on the homes of people with disabilities who are facing an accessibility barrier.

A goal of \$10,000 was announced at the ADA Celebration, and so far supporters have contributed \$8,819.00 toward the construction of ramps in Southwest Michigan! Contributors include **Disability Network Heritage Guild members, AMRamp, Allied Mechanical, Inc., First United Methodist Church – Kalamazoo** and **private donors**. Thank You!

If you would like to help us reach our \$10,000 goal, go to www.dnswm.org and click on the Donate button or mail a check or money order to 517 E. Crosstown Parkway Kalamazoo, MI 49001. Be sure to let us know that you would like the donation earmarked for Ramp Up!



BARRY • BERRIEN • BRANCH • CALHOUN • CASS • KALAMAZOO • ST. JOSEPH • VAN BUREN



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