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.
Interviewing for a Job When you have a Disability or Medical Condition: 
How, When & Why to Talk About It

Join us for this free and informative workshop!

• Learn the only reason you have to tell an employer about your disability or medical condition.
• Find out the best way to ask for an accommodation at work.
• Learn your rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
• Learn about disability and employment resources that can help you.

October 14, 2014 (Berrien County)
1:00 - 2:30 pm in our St. Joseph office at 2900 Lakeview Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085.
For more information or to register, contact Joanne at johnsonj@dnswm.org or (269) 982-7761.

October 14, 2014 (Calhoun County)
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm at the Financial Opportunity Center, 15 Capital Avenue, Battle Creek, MI 49017.
For more information or to register, contact Miranda at grunwellm@dnswm.org or (269) 345-1516 x120.

Conference: 
Assistive Technology: Narrowing the Gap

October 20, 2014 (Kalamazoo County)
An introduction to do-it-yourself assistive devices and iPad apps for people with disabilities. Join us and other community partners at WMU’s Fetzer Center from 8:30 - 4:00 pm with Dr. Therese Willkomm who is known nationally and internationally as “The MacGyver” of assistive technology. The cost for this event is $35. For more information or to register, contact Jill at jillian.fraze@wmich.edu or (269) 387-7175. Note: Fetzer Center now has a fully accessible restroom available.

Presentation:
Domestic Violence Information for Women with Disabilities

October 21, 2014 (Kalamazoo County)
This presentation is for women with disabilities so they can learn about services that are available to them if they are experiencing domestic violence. The presentation will be 11:00 to 12:30 pm Oct. 21st at Disability Network Southwest Michigan, 517 E. Crosstown Parkway, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. For more information or to register, contact Leatrice at fullertonl@dnswm.org or (269) 345-1516, ext. 118.
**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.

**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.

**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!

To change or update your information on our mailing list, contact Kristen at pottsk@dnswm.org or (269) 345-1516.
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!