

Employment

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA)

The Show Me Employment Project, Paraquad's Work Incentives Planning and Assistance project, supports Social Security disability beneficiaries who are working or who are preparing to work, so they can make a successful and profitable transition to the workforce.

WIPA services provide the tools and support participants need to make informed decisions about employment and increase financial independence to build their best lives. Program participants will work with a certified Community Work Incentives Coordinator (CWIC), who will provide in-depth counseling to explain how working may affect the receipt of disability benefits.

*All services are provided at no charge

Program Highlights:

- Verify and understand benefits information
- Identify and connect with services or supports needed to overcome barriers to employment.
- Understand how paid employment will affect all federal/state/local benefits
- Identify and use Social Security work incentives
- Support beneficiaries with reporting wage information to Social Security
- Help beneficiaries manage benefits over time
- Analyze healthcare coverage options
- Resolve benefits problems

Eligibility:

- Have a disability (or blindness) per Social Security's definition
- Already receive Social Security benefits based on disability or blindness
- Be at least age 14, but not yet full retirement age
- Currently work or engage self-employment, or be interested in pursuing employment or self-employment



Service Area

Paraquad's WIPA project serves the city of St. Louis and the following counties in Missouri: Audrain, Bollinger, Butler, Callaway, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Crawford, Dent, Dunklin, Franklin, Gasconade, Howell, Iron, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison, Maries, Mississippi, Monroe, Montgomery, New Madrid, Oregon, Osage, Pemiscot, Perry, Phelps, Pike, Pulaski, Ralls, Reynolds, Ripley, St. Charles, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, St. Louis, Scott, Shannon, Stoddard, Texas, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Boone, Cole, Miller, Randolph, Shelby

Additional Information

For more information or to request WIPA services, contact the Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY). Lines are open from 8am to 8pm EST.

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For more information, call **314-289-4200** Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm or email contactus@paraquad.org



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