



MS Model Youth Transition Innovation

Employment for all students

February Newsletter from your MYTI Benefits Specialist



BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART

Believe in your heart that something wonderful is about to happen.

Love your life.

Believe in your own powers,
and your own potential,
and in your own innate goodness.

Wake every morning
with the awe of just being alive.

Discover each day the magnificent,
awesome beauty of the world.

Explore and embrace life in yourself
and in everyone you see each day.

**Reach within to find
your own specialness.**

Amaze yourself and
rouse those around you
to the potential of each new day.

Don't be afraid to admit
that you are less than perfect;
that is the essence of your humanity.

Let those who love you help you.

Look with hope to the horizon of today,
for today is all we truly have.

Live this day well.

Let a little sun out as well as in.

Create your own rainbows.

Be open to all your possibilities;
all possibilities and Miracles.

Always believe in Miracles.

..Author Unknown



New Monthly Wage Reporting Initiative for SSI

SSI recipients who are working are now being encouraged by SSA to report their earnings on a monthly basis. SSA offices are developing support systems to assist beneficiaries with this new initiative. SSI is based on financial need, so all wages must be reported. Earnings from Ability-Works are considered wages by SSA.

Please remember, as SSA beneficiaries, it is your responsibility to report all income to the local SSA office. Even students must report their earnings.

I can provide counseling on available work incentives and employment supports to help you transition from benefits to employment.



IDAs Create a Bright Future

If you need money to purchase your first home, start a small business, or get additional education, then an Individual Development Account (IDA) may be just what you need.

Earned income set aside in a MYTI IDA account will be matched at a rate of \$4 for every \$1 you save.

CALL ME for details.

♪ Happy Birthday to You! ♪



Will you turn 18 this year?

Are you Receiving SSI?

If so, please call me for a benefits planning session.

Students who receive SSI will undergo an age 18 re-determination with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to see if they will continue to qualify for SSI benefits using adult standards. The SSA definition of disability is less stringent for children than for adults. You must comply with the age 18 re-determination process. Even if you are found to no longer qualify for SSI based on adult standards, **as a MYTI participant, SSI benefits will continue as long as you are a part of the project.** This is one of the SSA waivers for MYTI participants.

Also, if you have a disability and turn 18 this year but do not currently receive SSI due to deemed parental income, you may want to apply at your local SSA office for SSI benefits. Once you turn 18, SSA no longer considers parental income.

I will be glad to meet with you and discuss the age 18 re-determination.

Lisa Ladner

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MYTI is a national Social Security demonstration project designed to assist young people to become employed through transition interventions from school to work, thereby reducing reliance on public benefits.