



PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

HIV ADVOCACY & SERVICES SINCE 1995

The Network
News
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April Issue #167

OREGON HIV/AIDS CASE MANAGEMENT

DINING OUT FOR LIFE

Thank you for all your support of Dining Out for Life!!
It was a wonderful day and a successful event.
Stay tuned for Dining Out 2015!

Next Meeting May

Tuesday, May 13th
Medical Marijuana
in the Wild West

Kim Hutchinson,
RN

Room 1 D

Fresh Exchange Program

If you or someone you know has an Oregon Trail card, come to the market information booth to find out how you can double your food dollars at the market—up to \$5 each week! The market's *Fresh Exchange* program helps to get more farm-direct produce into the hands of our low-income neighbors while supporting our region's small farms and food producers. *Fresh Exchange* can be found at the following markets:

- **King Market** – Sundays, 10-2; May through November; NE 7th & Wygant in the parking lot adjacent to King Elementary School
- **Buckman Market** – Thursdays, 3-7; May through September; SE 20th & Salmon in the parking lot of Hinson Baptist Church
- **Northwest Market** – Thursdays, 2-6; June through September; NW 19th & Everett across from Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
- **Kenton Market** – Fridays, 3-7; June through September; N. McClellan Street & Denver Ave

Come to the King Farmers Market to meet the faces behind your food, visit with your community and celebrate the bounty of our region.

For more details, visit www.portlandfarmersmarket.org.

Social Security Field Office Service Changes Coming Later This Year

(Please see additional information, including key factsheets, at <http://www.ssa.gov/thirdparty/whatsnew.html#a0=0>)

By Alan Edwards-Social Security Public Affairs

To meet increasing service demands despite shrinking budgets, Social Security has invested in technological innovations offering more convenient, cost-effective and secure options for the public. Considering these factors, Social Security is making some service changes in our field offices across the country.

On August 1, 2014, Social Security will stop offering Social Security number printouts. Also, on October 1, 2014, our offices no longer will issue benefit verification letters. As a result of these changes, we ask agencies and organizations that routinely need access to these materials to use the data exchanges specifically developed for this purpose.

Social Security has collaborated with other federal, state and local agencies to build hundreds of robust data exchanges during the past few years. Today, Social Security provides more than 1.6 billion electronic verifications of Social Security numbers or benefit information to employers, state and local agencies, and other authorized third parties. Agencies and organizations should use available data exchanges to get the necessary verifications.

People needing proof of their Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits can get verification letters online instantly through a **my Social Security** account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. They also can get one mailed to them by calling our toll-free number, **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

Question:

If I get approved, how much will I receive in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits?

Answer:

The amount of your SSI benefit depends, in part, on the amount of other income you have. For 2014, the basic, maximum federal SSI payment is \$710 per month for an individual and \$1,082 per month for a couple. However, some states add money to the basic payment. Other monthly income you have would begin to reduce the basic SSI payment. Other things, such as where you live and who you live with, can affect your payment amount. Learn more about SSI by reading SSI publications at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs. Enter "SSI" in the search box.

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Question:

I moved in with my parents until I get back on my feet. Why did my Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment decrease?

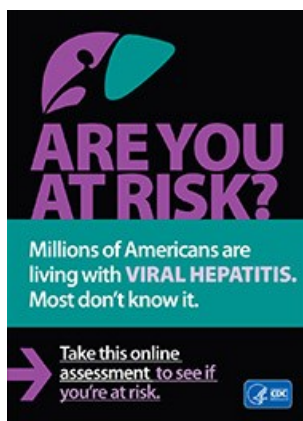
Answer:

If you receive SSI, your living arrangements can affect your monthly payment. When you live in another person's home and do not pay your fair share of the living expenses, that is counted as "in-kind" income and can reduce your SSI payment. You must report any changes in your living arrangement to Social Security within 10 days of the change. When reporting a change in living arrangement, you need to tell us your address, who you live with and what you contribute toward the household bills and expenses. You also need to report if you move into a private or public hospital or nursing home, an institution run by the government, jail, another person's home or a new place of your own. Report changes in your living arrangement at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Learn more about SSI and the things you need to report when you get it at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi.

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month

Over 5 million Americans are living with chronic hepatitis and many more do not know they have it. ¹

Take [this online risk assessment](#) and pass it on to your clients to learn more about risks.



¹ American Association for the Study of Liver Disease <https://www.aasld.org/patients/Pages/hepatitisawareness.aspx>

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This issue, and issues from Feb 2002 on, can be found electronically [here](#)