



PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

HIV ADVOCACY & SERVICES SINCE 1995

The Network
News
2014
August Issue #170

OREGON HIV / AIDS CASE MANAGEMENT

Due to the editor being on vacation last month, the Newsletter also took a vacation :) So this Issue has A LOT of information!



Social Security Defines Policy for Same-Sex Married Couples

Social Security has published new instructions that allow the agency to process more claims in which entitlement or eligibility is affected by a same-sex relationship. These instructions come in response to last year's Supreme Court decision in United States vs. Windsor, which found Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional. This latest policy development lets the agency recognize some non-marital legal relationships as marriages for determining entitlement to benefits.

These instructions also allow Social Security to begin processing many claims in states that do not recognize same-sex marriages or non-marital legal relationships. We have consulted with the Department of Justice and determined that the Social Security Act requires the agency to follow state law in Social Security cases. The new policy also addresses Supplemental Security Income claims based on same-sex relationships.

"As with previous same-sex marriage policies, we worked closely with the Department of Justice," said Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "We are bound by the law within the Social Security Act, and we have to respect state laws. We remain committed to treating all Americans fairly, with dignity, and respect."

If a person believes he or she may be entitled to or eligible for benefits, they are encouraged to apply now. To learn more, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/same-sex-couples.

Next Meeting September

Tuesday,
September 9th

800 NE Oregon-1D

Update on STDs,
treatment and
current studies
happening at the
STD Clinic

Juan Mendez and
Shireen Khormooji

EASY WAY TO GET BENEFIT VERIFICATION

By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs

Need verification of your Social Security benefits? There's no need to visit or call an office to get the verification you need. Simply visit www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

There are a number of reasons you may need written verification of your Social Security benefits. You may need to provide it to an energy assistance program or for subsidized housing. Perhaps you're ready to make a major purchase, and you're trying to get a loan from a bank or financial institution. Or maybe you're applying for state benefits or moving into a new apartment or home. You can use this benefit verification letter for any reason that someone requires proof of your income.

In addition to offering proof of income, the letter is an official document that verifies your Medicare coverage, retirement or disability status, and age. If you need verification that you have applied for benefits but have not yet received a decision, it also serves as proof that you applied.

Whatever your reason, if you need verification of your income from Social Security, obtaining it is easy and convenient.

Create a *my Social Security* account and you can instantly get your benefit verification letter online and obtain one anytime you need it. You also can use your account to manage your benefits, check your benefit amount, or change your address, phone number, and direct deposit information. Millions of people have already opened their accounts. In fact, someone opens a new *my Social Security* account about every six seconds!

You can also get a benefit verification letter mailed to you by calling 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). However, for most people, getting the verification online is the most convenient way to get what they need. Get your benefit verification letter by registering today for a *my Social Security* account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

SOMEDAY IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs

For many people, Someday is an elusive day on the far-off horizon—always close enough to see, but too distant to touch.

Perhaps Someday you plan to go skydiving. Or enter a hot dog-eating contest. Maybe Someday you plan to ride a mechanical bull. Or travel around the world. Or visit all of America's national parks.

Someday, you may want to retire. If you are mid-career, Someday, you may need to start planning for retirement. Even if you are just now starting your career, Someday, you're going to want to see what your future benefits will be and check your earnings for accuracy.

Well, get ready, because Someday has arrived. Open a *my Social Security* account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount, and you'll see what we mean.

Millions of people have already opened an account, taking advantage of the benefits of *my Social Security*. Why are so many Americans opening accounts? Because *my Social Security* is fast, easy, and secure. It's a convenient way to check your earnings record, get up-to-date, personalized estimates of retirement, disability, and survivors benefits, and access your *Social Security Statement*. With a *my Social Security* account, you can plan for your retirement and get help figuring out how to save for your future. If you already receive benefits, you can manage them online by starting or stopping your direct deposit, changing your address, and getting an instant proof-of-benefits letter.

Someone opens a new account just about every six seconds. Considering there is only one skydive every 16 seconds, opening a *my Social Security* is even more popular!

That elusive Someday that you thought might never come is here now. You'll find it at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

Social Security Q & A

Question:

My application for disability benefits was denied. What do I do if I disagree with the decision?

Answer:

You can appeal the decision at www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices. This website is the starting point to request a review of our medical decision about your eligibility for disability benefits. There are two parts to this Internet Appeal process:

- (1) An Appeal Request Internet form; and
- (2) An Appeal Disability Report that gives us more information about your condition.

You can complete both forms online. To appeal online, the only form you *must* submit is an Appeal Request Internet form (Part 1). However, we encourage you to submit an Appeal Disability Report (Part 2) because it will give us more information about you and help us in processing your appeal.

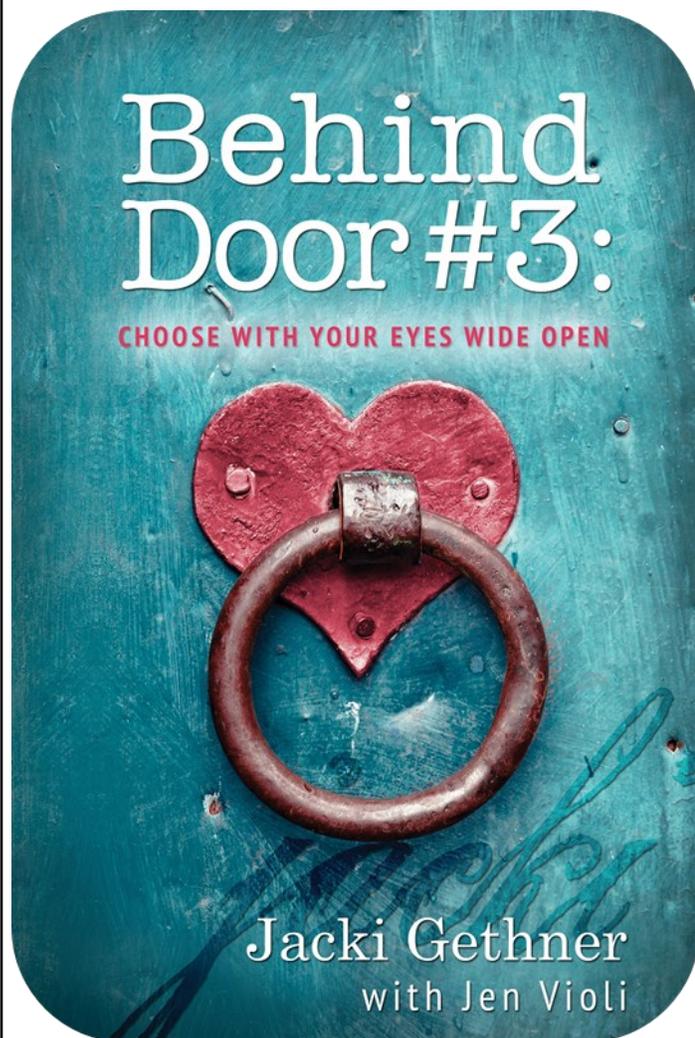
To get started, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices.

Question:

Does where I live affect the amount of my Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits?

Answer:

It might. First, where you live might affect your benefit amount because some states add a supplement to the federal payment. If you live in your own place and pay your own food and shelter costs, regardless of whether you own or rent, you may get up to the maximum SSI amount payable in your state. You also can get up to the maximum if you live in someone else's household, as long as you pay your food and shelter costs. If you live in someone else's household and don't pay your food and shelter costs or pay only part of them, your SSI benefit may be reduced by up to one-third of the SSI federal benefit rate. To learn more, read *Supplemental Security Income (SSI)* available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.



***HIV & Aging
Awareness Day***

*Hollywood Senior Center
9:30am - 11am
1820 NE 40th*

*Central Drug
12-2 pm*

**Thursday
September
18, 2014**

Book signing by Jacki Gethner

Behind Door #3: Choose With Your Eyes Wide Open
a “*choose your own dating adventure*” book for women with
information for making safe, healthy decision for oneself.

HIV & Aging Awareness Day Information

**Fitness, vision, skin care, mental health, sexual health: HEP C
testing, senior risk for STI’s -sexually transmitted infections**

FB: Women Of A Certain Age/jackigethnerfounder www.jackigethner.com 503 790-



At this point you're probably wondering, "What is the NW AIDS Quilt?" The NW AIDS Quilt is a community art project that CAP is spearheading and would like you to be a part of. Much like The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, the vision for the NW AIDS Quilt is that the community affected by this epidemic will contribute their experiences in the form of personally crafted 9x9 inch fabric squares (including a half inch margin, for 8x8 inches of presentation area). The squares might memorialize those lost to the epidemic, honor survivors, present a vision for the future, or commemorate advocacy.

Our hope is that ASOs from all over Oregon and SW Washington would contribute patches with their logos on them, encourage their clients to create patches and/or create time and space for the community to create patches in your space. Our goal is to assemble one quilt by December 1, 2014—World AIDS Day (WAD)—to display at Portland's Central Library for CAP's WAD event. In the future, the NW AIDS Quilt will be available to all participating ASOs to be displayed at their events or workplace.

We sincerely hope your organization will consider participating in this community art project. We are now accepting completed squares, at CAP (208 SW 5th Ave Suite 800, Portland, OR 97204, Monday-Friday 9-5pm) and at Pivot (209 SW 4th Ave, Portland, OR 97204, Wednesday-Saturday 2-7pm). Also, a pick up day and time at your organization can also be arranged in advance. To be considered for the first quilt display on WAD, submit completed squares and submission form by October 1, 2014.

We would be happy to speak more in person or over the phone if you have any questions. For more information, please contact Fallon at 503-278-3863 or CAPHistory@cascadeaids.org.

Patch # _____



**The NW AIDS Quilt
Submission Form**

Contact Person's Name: _____

Number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

What are you submitting?

Patch

Monetary donation amount: _____

Other (please describe): _____

Description of patch:

Name of the person/program I made the patch for/dedicated to:

Title of patch: _____

I understand that Cascade AIDS Project becomes the proprietor of any patchwork and documentation that I submit for The Portland AIDS Quilt. Cascade AIDS Project reserves the right to use submitted patchwork and documentation for any promotion and public use and display. I understand that my information will remain confidential unless otherwise stated below (please mark one). I am aware the Cascade AIDS Project will contact me with questions, concerns and updates regarding my particular patch and/or The Portland AIDS Quilt itself.

Yes, you may give credit to my name for the patch donated.

No, you may not attach my name to the patch submitted. But I understand that the description of the patch may become public.

Sign/Date

The NW AIDS Quilt

Submission Information

Design & Content

Only use cotton fabric for the foundation patch. You may use any fabric type in addition to the foundation. Use of color and pattern are permissible.

Use materials that will last. Sewing or stitching will last the longest. You may use marker, fabric, yarn and iron on patches and images. But please be mindful of weight. Glitter and sequene will stick and spread so please keep to a minimum or do not use at all.

The content of patch may touch on the following:

- Memorial of loved ones lost
- In honor of those who have survived
- Hope and vision for the future
- Advocacy around HIV, stigma, safer sex

The content of the quilt may not include:

- Hateful language toward another group
- Outing individuals and their status without their acknowledgement
- No heavy object such as clay

CAP reserves the right to reject pieces based on their own discretion. We will contact you if there is any concern around your submitted piece.

Size Requirements

The measurements of the patch are 9x9 inches. Leave a ½ inch on top, bottom and both sides. The total work space with the ½ inch margins will equal 8x8 inches.

Submitting a Patch

When submitting a patch, please place patch in a zip lock baggie and include submission form. There are two ways in which you may submit a patch:

You may mail or drop a patch off to:
 Cascade AIDS Project- NW AIDS Quilt
 208 SW 5th Ave Suite 800
 Portland, OR 97204
 CAP is open M-F 9-5pm

Or you can drop off in person at
 Pivot:
 Pivot- NW AIDS Quilt
 209 SW 4th Ave
 Portland, OR 97204
 Pivot is open W-S 2-7pm

Submission Form

Your patch and/or donation must include a submission form. Please take the time to write about your patch. If you can, please consider making a donation to support this project.

Questions

email: CAPHistory@cascadeaids.org

PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

PROPORCIONANDO ABOGACIA Y SERVICIOS DESDE 1995

We're hiring a .50 FTE (20 hours a week) Spanish Speaking RN.

Please direct folks to [OHSU Jobs](#) to read the job description and apply!!

Spanish Speaking Nurse Case Manager will provide comprehensive case management services to HIV+ clients and their families through the continuum of HIV related care. Key services include health assessment, coordination of services, transition planning, and education in conjunction with an interdisciplinary team.

Qualifications	Required
Education:	Bachelors Degree of Nursing
Experience:	A minimum of two years of applicable HIV clinical experience in community health and/or case management.
Job Related Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (Competencies):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bilingual in Spanish -Must have the ability to problem solve and work with extremely complex clients who present with multiple diagnoses and social problems. -Understanding of the role of the nurse and the scope of practice in Oregon - Knowledge of HIV disease and its related diseases and infections -Needs to have understanding of cultural factors that influence service access and delivery. -Must have excellent written and oral communication skills. -Needs working knowledge of computer operations and EHR.
Registrations, Certifications and/or Licenses:	Active Oregon RN License

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