

EMPLOYMENT: Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Program

Disability Rights Ohio is again providing benefits counseling, a free service available to people who receive Social Security benefits because of a disability, through the Social Security Administration's Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) program.

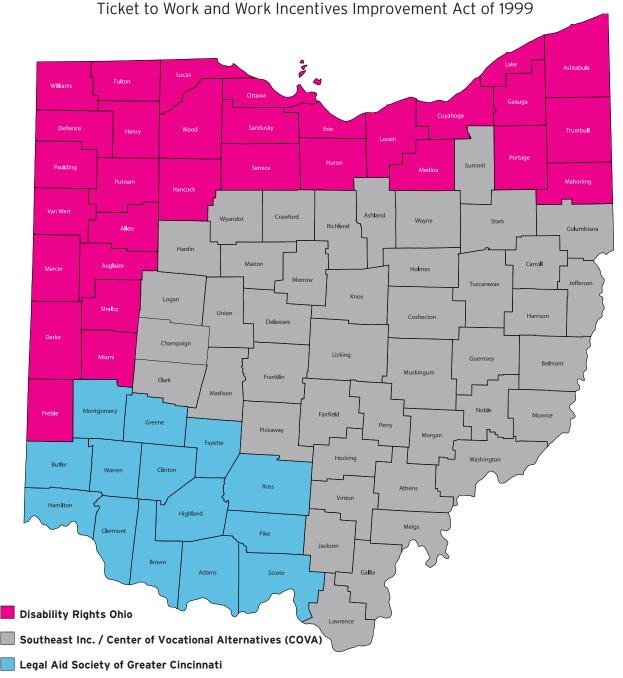
The Social Security Administration offers "work incentives" designed to help people transition from receiving disability checks to earning money through work. Benefits counseling has the goal of reducing or eliminating a person's dependence on public benefits, while addressing their concerns about issues like continuing health care benefits.

Certified Work Incentive Coordinators (CWICs) provide individualized counseling to help people use these work incentives and understand their impact on the person's employment.

Disability Rights Ohio administers the WIPA program in 31 of Ohio's 88 counties, as shown in the pink area of the map on the back of this page. Two other agencies, the Legal Aid Society of Cincinnati and the Center of Vocational Alternatives, oversee WIPA programs in other counties. Their contact information is provided below the map.

For more information on the WIPA program, please contact the Disability Rights Ohio intake department at 800-282-9181, TTY 614-728-2553, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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