

# LEARN HOW TO BECOME A TICKET TO WORK EMPLOYMENT NETWORK



*Bridging the Gap between Experience and Opportunity*

# Presenters

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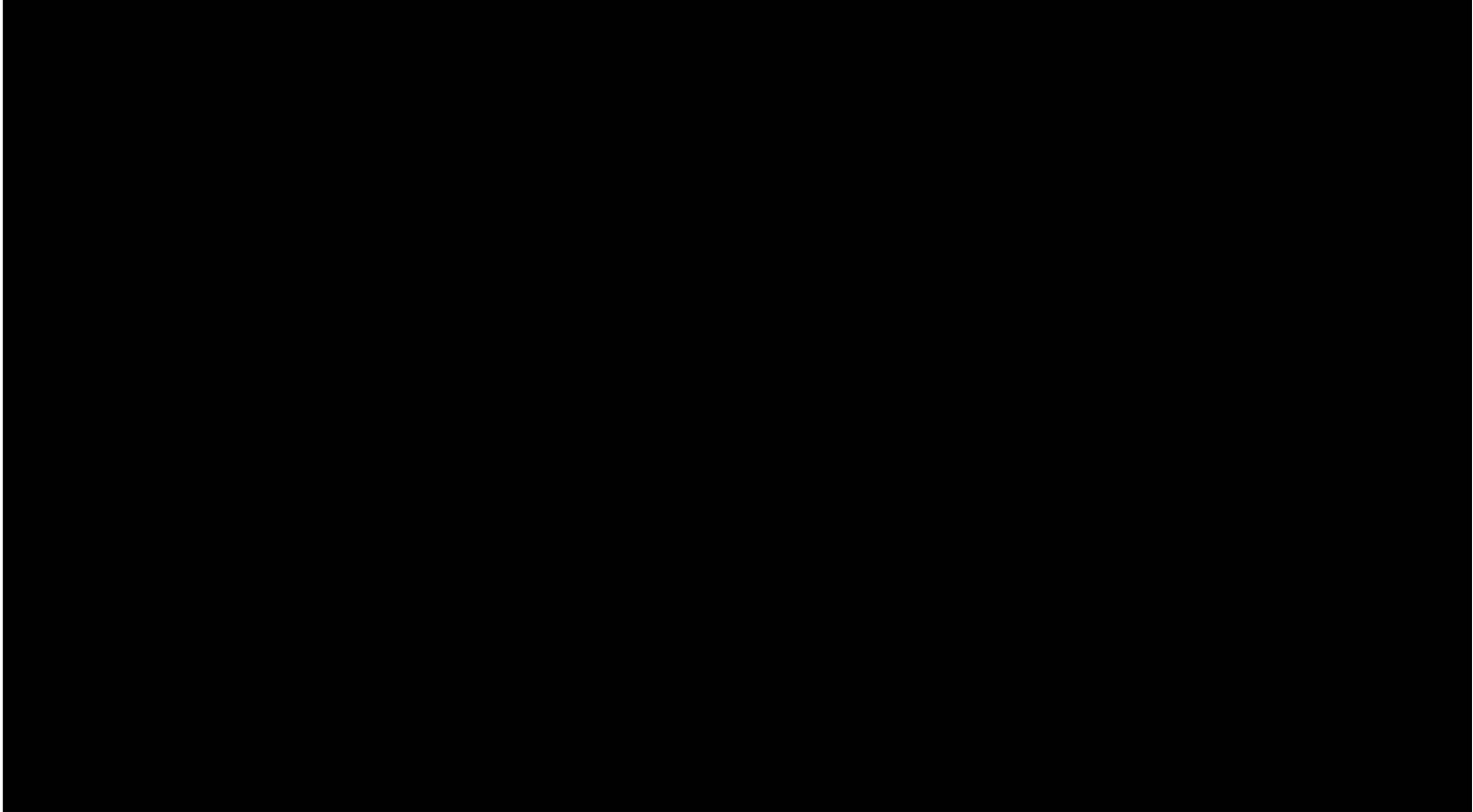
# Presentation Information

Information for this presentation was obtained from these websites:

- <https://www.chooseworkttw.net>
- [www.ssa.gov/work](http://www.ssa.gov/work)
- [http://www.thisamericanlife.org/play\\_full.php?play=490](http://www.thisamericanlife.org/play_full.php?play=490)
- <https://yourtickettowork.com/web/ttw>

# Meet Ben!

## An Introduction to Ticket to Work



# What is the Ticket to Work Program?

The Ticket to Work program provides Social Security disability beneficiaries with...

- Choices
- Opportunities
- Support

The goal of the program is to reduce and, whenever possible, eliminate dependence on cash benefits.



# Who Qualifies for the Ticket to Work Program?

- Everyone age 18 to 64 who receives Social Security insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits because of his or her disability.
- Participation in the Ticket to Work program is free and voluntary.



# What Existing Customers can Benefit from Ticket to Work?

- Adult and Dislocated Workers
- Disability Employment Initiative
- Minnesota Family Investment Program
- Senior Programs
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Universal Customers
- Veteran's Programs
- Youth Programs (age 18+)



# How Does a Beneficiary Assign Their Ticket?

Under the Ticket to Work program, Social Security issues “tickets” to eligible beneficiaries who, in turn may choose to assign their tickets to:

- An Employment Network (EN)
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Support services necessary to achieve a vocational (work) goal

Once an Employment Network (EN) accepts a ticket, they will coordinate and provide appropriate services to help the beneficiary find and maintain employment.

# Advantages of the Ticket to Work Program

<p><b>Trial Work Period</b> (TWP) (SSDI recipients only)</p>	 	<p>The TWP allows you to test your ability to work for at least nine months. During your TWP, you will receive full SSDI benefits no matter how much you earn as long as your work activity is reported and you have a disabling impairment.</p>
<p><b>Expedited Reinstatement</b> (EXR) (SSDI and SSI recipients)</p>	 	<p>If your benefits stopped because of your earnings level, you can request to have your benefits reinstated without having to complete a new application. While Social Security determines your benefits reinstatement, you are eligible to receive temporary benefits for up to six months.</p>
<p><b>Protection from Medical Continuing Disability Reviews</b> (CDR) (SSDI and SSI recipients)</p>	 	<p>If you assign your Ticket to an approved service provider before you receive notice of a medical Continuing Disability Review (CDR), you will not have to undergo the medical review while you are participating in the Ticket to Work program and making progress within Social Security's timeframes.</p>

# Megan Riggs' Success Story

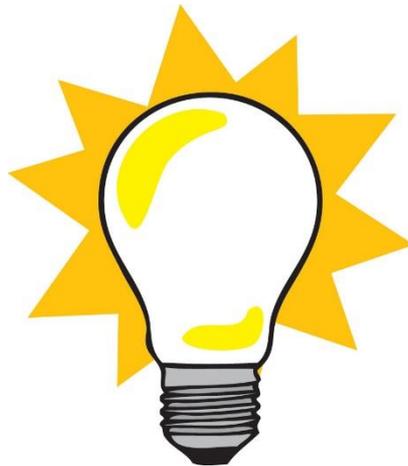


# What is an Employment Network?

- An organizational entity (state or local, public or private) that enters into a contract with Social Security with the intention of coordinating and delivering employment services, VR services, and/or other support services under the Ticket to Work program.
- These services are provided by the Employment Network (EN) to Social Security beneficiaries who have assigned their ticket to the EN, which has accepted the ticket.

# How did CMJTS become an Employment Network?

- CMJTS became a control group during the Round 3 Disability Employment Initiative – Youth Program.
- The CMJTS management team and board members decided to pursue becoming an EN because it made sense.



# Advantages to becoming an Employment Network

- It provides more choices for individuals with disabilities in receiving services that will help them return to work.
- It provides a means for ENs to fund these services through payments they receive for achieving employment-related milestones and outcomes established by the Ticket program.
- The Ticket program represents an excellent opportunity to earn additional unrestricted funding to help provide services to your existing clients and to expand your client base.

# How Soon Can You Start Earning Payments?

- You can start earning EN payments a month after a ticket holder has assigned his/her ticket to you for employment.
- If you help the ticket holder maintain employment and increase his/her earnings for a number of months after disability benefits cease, your organization can potentially earn more than \$23,600 for successfully serving that one person.

# Milestone Payments



## 2016 Payments at a Glance

### OUTCOME PAYMENT METHOD

Payment Type	Beneficiary Earnings Required After Ticket Assignment	SSI Ticket-Holder (Title XVI)	SSDI Ticket-Holder (Title II)
Outcome	Earnings sufficient for "zero" cash benefits status	Up to 60 Payments of \$451/Month	Up to 36 payments of \$781/Month
Total of Outcome Payments Available		<b>\$ 27,060</b>	<b>\$ 28,116</b>

### MILESTONE OUTCOME PAYMENT METHOD

Payment Type	Beneficiary Earnings	SSI Payment Amount (Title XVI)	SSDI Payment Amount (Title II)
Phase 1 Milestones**			
Milestone 1	\$810/mo. x 1 mo.	<b>\$1,398</b>	<b>\$1,398</b>
Milestone 2	\$810/mo. x 3 mos. w/in 6 mos.	<b>\$1,398</b>	<b>\$1,398</b>
Milestone 3	\$810/mo. x 6 mos. w/in 12 mos.	<b>\$1,398</b>	<b>\$1,398</b>
Milestone 4	\$810/mo. x 9 mos. w/in 18 mos.	<b>\$1,398</b>	<b>\$1,398</b>
Total Potential Phase 1 Milestones		<b>\$5,592</b>	<b>\$5,592</b>
Phase 2 Milestones	Gross Earnings > SGA (\$1,130/\$1,820)***	<b>\$242/mo. for up to 18 mos. = \$4,356</b>	<b>\$419/mo. for up to 11 mos. = \$4,609</b>
Total Potential Phase 1+2 Milestones		<b>\$9,948</b>	<b>\$10, 201</b>
Outcome	Earnings > SGA (\$1,130/\$1,820)*** And federal cash benefit = \$0	<b>\$242/mo. for up to 60 mos. = \$14,520</b>	<b>\$419/mo. for up to 36 mos. = \$15,084</b>
Total Potential Milestone and Outcome Payments		<b>\$ 24,468</b>	<b>\$ 25,285</b>

\*The payment rate in effect at the time the Milestone or Outcome is attained is the rate that will be paid for that particular month, regardless of when the payment request is submitted.

\*\* Please contact the Payments Help Desk (at [ENPaymentsHelpDesk@yourtickettowork.com](mailto:ENPaymentsHelpDesk@yourtickettowork.com)) for explanations to exceptions.

\*\*\* The 2016 monthly SGA amounts are \$1,130 for non-blind and \$1,820 for blind individuals.

# What is Required to become an Employment Network?

- Organizations and individuals that wish to become ENs must submit a Request for Quotation (RFQ) to the Social Security Administration.
- The RFQ explains the duties of an EN, the requirements for award consideration, and directions for submitting a quotation.
- If respondents to the RFQ are qualified to become ENs, Social Security will award them a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA). Each BPA has a 10-year period of performance.
- Once awarded, the BPA lists the compliance requirements of the Ticket to Work program and should be stored for easy reference.

# Suitability Clearance

All State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency and Employment Network (EN) personnel required to access Social Security beneficiary Personally Identifiable Information (PII) must have a favorable suitability determination before accessing any Social Security information.



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# DEI and Ticket to Work Connection

- Easily identify individuals who are Social Security beneficiaries
- Career planning and counseling
- Assistance with accommodations
- Connect individuals to resources that can help them achieve their employment goals
- EN model can help make DEI sustainable

# Role of the Disability Resource Coordinator

- Organize and convene Integrated Resource Teams (IRTs) to engage people with disabilities in career pathway programs
- Be trained on the Social Security Administration (SSA) Ticket to Work (TTW) program and encourage ticket assignments to generate additional financial resources.
- Be a certified work incentives planner to assist individuals who receive SSI or SSDI.

# What is an Integrated Resource Team (IRT)?

An IRT is initiated on behalf of an individual who is experiencing multiple challenges to employment in order to address that individual's specific needs.

## Who participates on an IRT?

- Workforce Investment System
- Mental Health
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Independent Living Center
- Any provider or individual who will help a customer reach their identified employment goal

# Robert Statam's Success Story



# CMJTS' Success Story



Clark

# Questions or Comments



# Helpful Resources

- <https://www.chooseworkttw.net>
- <https://mn.db101.org/>
- [www.ssa.gov/work](http://www.ssa.gov/work)
- <https://yourtickettowork.com/web/ttw>

If you are an organization interested in becoming an Employment Network, contact the Customer Service Call Center at 1-866-949-3687.

# Contact Information

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