

CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
April 12, 2019
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM, UNITED WAY OF LONG ISLAND, DEER PARK, NY

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Clara C., Co-Chair
Kevin M., Co-Chair
Denise R.
Eileen B.
June T.
Wendy A.
Joseph P.
Richard G.
Robert S.
William D.
Cathy M.
Barbara G.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Nancy D.
Angie P
Clement W.
James C.
Juanita C-F
Ernest B.
Keith A.
Lance M.
Paul B.
Traci S.
Gauis C.
James H.
Robert S.
Arthur B.

GUESTS

Victoria Osk, Esq.

STAFF:

Georgette Beal
Katie Ramirez
Stephanie Moreau
Myra Alston
JoAnn Henn

I. Welcome/Introductions

Clara C. called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. She welcomed everyone and introductions were made. A moment of silence was observed.

II. Approval of February 8, 2019 Minutes

The February 8, 2019 minutes were tabled until the June CIC meeting to allow time for Ms. Osk's presentation and Q & A.

III. CAB Update/Regional Trends

There were no CAB updates to be reported.

IV. Impact of Employment on Benefits-

Ms. Osk, Esq. gave a presentation on the impact of employment on benefits for the committee members.

Using the document, *Working While Disabled: How we Can Help* from SocialSecurity.gov as a guide, Ms. Osk reviewed the report with the committee, explained the difference between SSI and SSDI, clarified the terminology, and answered consumer questions.

Special rules make it possible for people receiving social security disability benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments to work and still receive their monthly payments. Also, if you cannot continue working because of a medical condition, your benefits can start again and you may not have to file a new application:

- Social security and SSI needs to be notified when you stop or start working, as your benefits may be affected.
- Trial Work Period-allows you to test your ability to work for at least nine months. During this trial work period, you will continue to receive social security benefits regardless of how much is earned, as long as you report your work and continue to have a disability. In 2019, a trial work month is any month your total earnings exceed \$880. The trial work period continues until you have used nine cumulative trial work months within a 60 month period.
- Extended Period of Eligibility-After your trial work period, there are 36 months during which you can work and still continue to receive benefits for any month your earnings are not “substantial”. In 2019, “substantial” is defined as earnings over \$1,220 a month. (\$2,040 if you are blind). There is no need for a new application during this period.

The Committee thanked Ms. Osk, Esq. for presenting this valuable information

VI. Announcements/Adjournment

- Eileen B. informed the committee about an HIV medicine recycling program. She distributed brochures about AID for AIDS (AFA), a nonprofit organization that collects unused unexpired HIV medicine in the United States to recycle and redistribute to people with HIV in the developing world with no access to treatment.

A motion was made by Wendy A. and seconded by Denise R. to adjourn the April 14, 2019 Consumer Involvement Committee meeting. **All in Favor-Motion carried**