



Helping You Today  
So You Succeed Tomorrow



# Ticket to Work: Support on Your Journey to Employment

**Date:**  
Wednesday,  
September 22,  
2021

**Time:**  
3 – 4:30 PM ET



Produced at U.S. taxpayer expense.

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+1 (USA)

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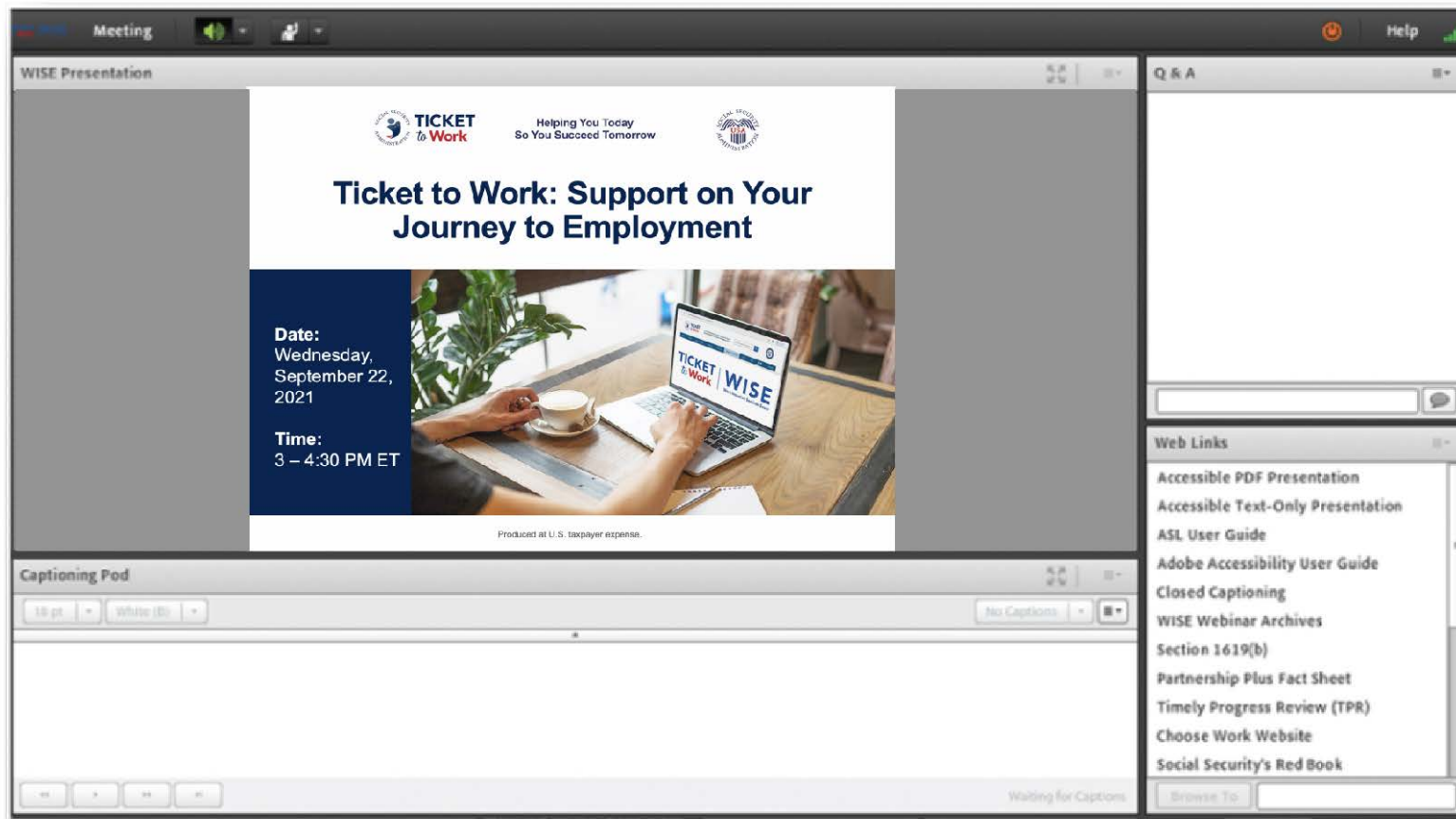
Toll-free number: **1-800-832-0736**

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# Webinar Accessibility



# Adobe Connect Platform



# Adobe Connect Accessibility User Guide

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<http://bit.ly/adobe-accessibility>

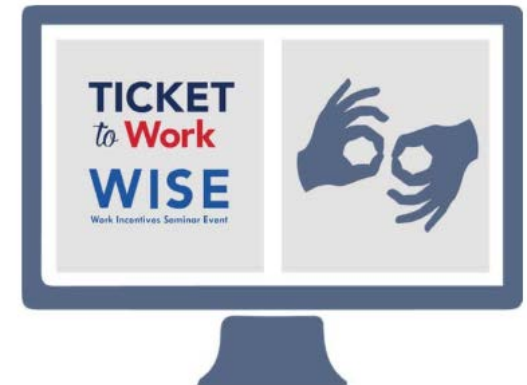
# Captioning

- Real-time captioning is provided during this webinar
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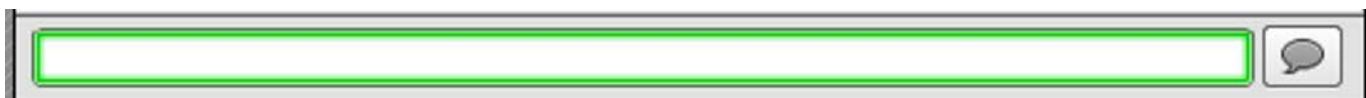
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- If you're fluent in **ASL** and would like support during today's webinar, follow the link below that provides instructions to connect with an interpreter through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Video Relay Service (VRS)
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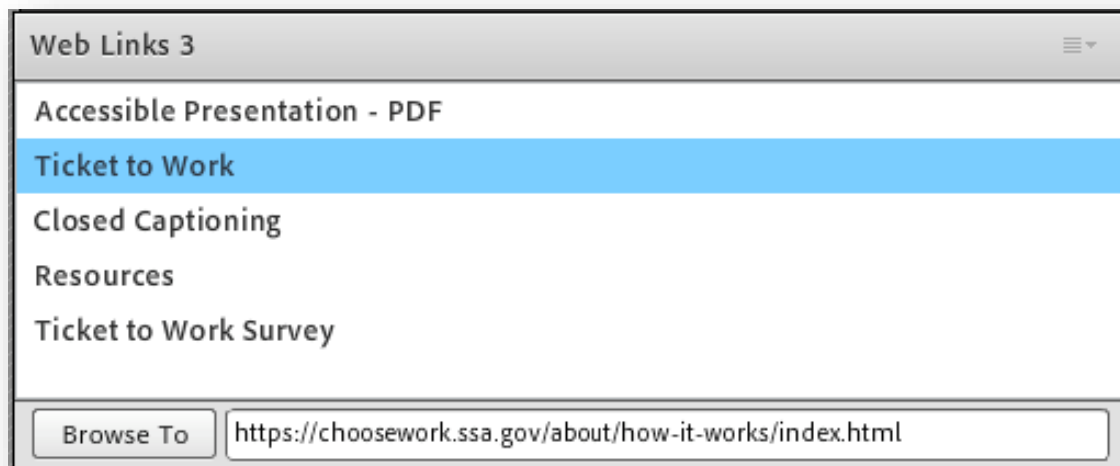
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- For Q&A: Please use the **Q&A pod** to submit any questions you have during the webinar, and we will direct the questions accordingly during the Q&A portion
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# Archived Events

**Please note:** This webinar is being recorded, and the archive will be available within 2 weeks on the Choose Work website at [http://bit.ly/WISE\\_OnDemand](http://bit.ly/WISE_OnDemand).

The screenshot shows the Ticket to Work website's 'WISE On Demand' page. At the top left is the Social Security Administration logo and the 'TICKET to Work' logo. To the right is the tagline: 'Access to Employment Support Services for Social Security Disability Beneficiaries Who Want to Work'. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Success Stories, Find Help, Find a Job, Webinar & Tutorials (which is highlighted), Library, Blog, and Contact. Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: 'You are here: Home / Webinars & Tutorials / WISE On Demand'. The main heading is 'WISE On Demand'. Below this is a paragraph: 'Our free, monthly WISE webinars provide information you can use on your path to financial independence through work. Discover programs, resources and information while learning about how Social Security's Ticket to Work Program can help. [Learn more and register](#) today for this month's webinar!'. To the right of this text is the 'TICKET to Work WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event ON DEMAND' logo. Below the paragraph is a list of webinar topics with their dates and titles, each followed by a link to the webinar page.

**TICKET to Work WISE Work Incentive Seminar Event ON DEMAND**

- April 2021: [Healthcare and the Path to Employment](#)
- March 2021: [Ticket to Work and the Path to Employment](#)
- February 2021: [Expanding Your Job Search with Ticket to Work](#)
- January 2021: [Choosing a Service Provider That's Right for You](#)
- December 2020: [Ticket to Work and Mental Health](#)
- November 2020: [Debunking the Three Biggest Myths about Disability Benefits and Work](#)
- October 2020: [Working from Home with Ticket to Work](#)
- September 2020: [Understanding Ticket to Work: How to Help Your Clients and the People You Serve](#)
- August 2020: [Ticket to Work and the Path to Employment](#)
- July 2020: [Reasonable Accommodations and the Path to Employment](#)
- June 2020: [Ticket to Work and Mental Health](#)
- May 2020: [Working from Home with Ticket to Work](#)

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# Presenters

## Welcome and Introductions

Moderator: Sarah Hyland, WISE Moderator

Presenters: Raymond A. Cebula, III, J.D., Cornell University

# Welcome!

Thank you for joining us! Today, we'll discuss how Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program can help you and answer questions related to:

- Social Security's Ticket Program
- Ticket to Work Service Providers
- Work Incentives and the Ticket Program
- Phases of the Path to Work
- Putting It All Together





# **Ticket to Work Program: Support on Your Journey to Work**



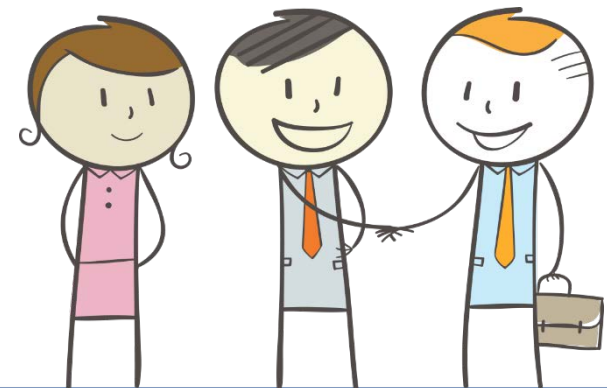
# Social Security Disability Benefits Programs



**Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)**



**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**



# Sign Up for a *my* Social Security Account

- Your personal *my* Social Security account at [SSA.gov/myaccount](https://SSA.gov/myaccount) gives you secure access to information based on your earnings history and interactive tools tailored to you.
- With a *my* Social Security account, you can access your earnings history and benefits information, request a replacement Social Security card, get a proof of income letter, estimate and apply for benefits, and more.

How to create a *my* Social Security account



Securing today and tomorrow

To create an account, you must:

-   
Be at least 18 years of age
-   
Have a Social Security number
-   
Have a valid U.S. mailing address
-   
Have an email address

# Starting the Journey

Only you can decide if work is the **right choice for you.**



# Why Choose Work?

Earning a living through employment is not something everyone can do, but it may be **right for you**. Once people understand the many **free services and supports** available to them, they often find that the rewards far outweigh the risks.



# What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 1 of 3)

## The Ticket to Work Program

- Is a free and **voluntary** Social Security program
- Offers **career development** for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits and want to work



# What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 2 of 3)

The Ticket to Work Program connects you with **free employment services** to help you:

- Decide if working is right for you
- Prepare for work
- Find a job
- Succeed at work



# What Is the Ticket to Work Program? (Slide 3 of 3)

We encourage you to learn more about the Ticket Program from our newest fact sheet.

**“What is Social Security’s Ticket to Work Program?”**

<https://bit.ly/ttw-program>



# Ticket to Work Help Line

The Ticket to Work Program provides a Help Line that can verify eligibility, explain how the program works and answer questions.

**Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:**

**Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm ET**

- 1-866-968-7842
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)





# **Ticket to Work Service Providers**



# Who Can Help You Achieve Your Work Goals?

Through the Ticket Program, you'll have access to a variety of **Ticket Program service providers**, including:

- Employment Networks (EN)
- Workforce ENs
- State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agencies
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) projects
- Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) organizations



# Employment Network (EN)

An EN is a private or public organization that has an agreement with Social Security to provide **free employment support services** to people who are eligible for the Ticket Program.

- Many state public workforce systems, such as American Job Centers, are **Workforce ENs**



# How Can Working with an EN Help You?

Services and supports are designed to help you on the path to financial independence through work and can include helping you to:

- Identify your **work goals**
- Write and review your **resume**
- Prepare for **interviews**
- Request **reasonable accommodations**
- Receive **benefits counseling**



# State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency

A State VR agency provides a wide variety of services to help people with disabilities return to work, enter new lines of work, or enter the workforce for the first time. A State VR agency can offer benefits counseling and may also be able to help you with:

- **Vocational rehabilitation**
- **Training and education**

Some states have separate VR agencies that serve individuals who are blind and visually impaired.



# What Is Partnership Plus?

Partnership Plus is an agreement that allows State VR agencies to partner with ENs to provide a **transition of services** for those who need **ongoing support**.

- VR agencies typically close a case approximately 90 days after you start working
- An EN may offer continued support services to maintain employment and increase your earnings over time
- If your state doesn't have a formal Partnership Plus agreement, you can still work with an EN after your VR case closes



[choosework.ssa.gov/library/partnership-plus](https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/partnership-plus)

# Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Projects

WIPA projects are staffed by Community Work Incentives Coordinators (CWIC) who:

- Provide **free benefits counseling** to eligible Social Security disability beneficiaries about how work and earnings will affect your SSDI, SSI, Medicare or Medicaid, and other public benefits
- Help you understand **Social Security Work Incentives** and how they apply to you
- Explain the potential **benefits of employment** and **dispel myths** about working
- Help you decide if services and supports from the Ticket Program are **right for you**



# Whom Do WIPA Projects Serve?

The Ticket to Work Help Line will refer you to a WIPA project if you receive SSDI, SSDI-related Medicare, SSI, or SSI-related Medicaid and you:



- Are currently **working** or **self-employed**
- Have a job offer **pending**
- Are actively **interviewing** for jobs
  - Had an interview in the past 30 days
  - Have a job interview scheduled in the next 2 weeks
- Are **age 14–25**, even in the earliest stages of considering work



# Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) (Slide 1 of 2)

- PABSS organizations provide **free legal assistance** to people who receive Social Security disability benefits and who have disability-related employment issues
- PABSS services may include:
  - **Legal support**
  - **Advocacy**
  - Information to help beneficiaries **resolve employment-related concerns** with employers, Social Security, ENs, State VR agencies, WIPA projects, or others



# Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) (Slide 2 of 2)

PABSS services may also provide help with:

- Navigating organizations and services to support your effort to work and **protect your rights**
- **Requesting** reasonable accommodations in your college classes, training courses, licensing programs, and workplace
- Addressing other **disability-based legal issues** that are barriers to employment



# How Do You Find a Service Provider?

- If you're ready to find a service provider, visit [choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp](https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp)
- Search by:
  - ZIP code
  - Services offered
  - Disability type
  - Languages spoken
  - Provider type (EN, Workforce EN, VR, WIPA, or PABSS)
- Or call the **Ticket to Work Help Line** for a list of service providers at **1-866-968-7842** or **1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**  
Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 8:00 pm ET



# Questions?



# Work Incentives and the Ticket Program



# Work Incentives

Social Security Work Incentives make it easier for people with disabilities to work and still receive medical benefits and, in some cases, cash payments from Social Security.

Work Incentives are special Social Security rules and programs that allow you to:

- Receive **training** for new skills
- Improve the **skills** you already have
- Pursue your **education**
- Try **different jobs**
- Start a **career**
- Gain **confidence**



<https://bit.ly/work-incentives>

# Work Incentives and Programs to Help You Keep Medicare and Medicaid

## Medicaid

- Medicaid While Working or 1619(b)
- Medicaid Buy-in Program



## Medicare

- Extended Period of Medicare Coverage
- Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work

# Medicaid While Working or 1619(b)

If you receive SSI, you may qualify for continued Medicaid coverage when your benefit payment stops if you:

1. Have been **eligible for SSI** for at least 1 month
2. Continue to meet **Social Security's definition** of disability
3. Still meet all other non-disability **SSI requirements**
4. Need Medicaid benefits to **continue to work**
5. Have gross earnings that are **below your state's threshold of eligibility** (see updated state thresholds amounts at: <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/1619b.htm>)





# Medicaid Buy-in Programs

Many states allow you to purchase Medicaid under a **Buy-in Program**. You may qualify if you meet the definition of “**disabled**” under the Social Security Act.

Also, each program is different, but most require that you are working at least a little and may allow you to have significant earnings from work or self-employment and higher savings than regular Medicaid.



Under certain circumstances, people who receive SSDI benefits may be eligible for Medicaid Buy-in Programs.

You should check with your local Medicaid agency to find out what is available in your state.

# Extended Period of Medicare Coverage

Most SSDI beneficiaries with disabilities whose benefits cease due to work will continue to receive, after their Trial Work Period, at least 93 consecutive months of:

- Hospital Insurance (Part A)
- Supplemental Medical Insurance (Part B), if enrolled
- Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D), if enrolled



To qualify:

- You must **already have Medicare** and be working at **Substantial Gainful Activity**
- You **cannot** be medically improved

# Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work

(Slide 1 of 2)

After premium-free Medicare coverage ends due to work, you can buy continued Medicare coverage, as long as you remain medically disabled.

You are eligible to buy Medicare coverage if:

- You are not yet age 65; and
- You continue to have a disabling impairment; and
- Your Medicare stopped due to work



# Medicare for People with Disabilities Who Work

(Slide 2 of 2)

- For more information on enrollment periods or to make an appointment to enroll, please call the **Social Security** office at 1-800-772-1213 or 1-800-325-0778 (TTY) to find your local office
- For help with paying the premiums, please call **Medicare** at 1-800-MEDICARE or 1-877-486-2048 (TTY)
  - You will need your Medicare number
  - Be prepared to tell the representative your state



# Questions?



# Phases of the Path to Work



# Phases of the Path to Work

Everyone's path to work is different. The phases of your path may look like this:

- Phase 1: Learning About Ticket to Work
- Phase 2: Getting Ready to Work
- Phase 3: Getting a Job
- Phase 4: Managing Your Job



# Phase 1: Learning About Ticket to Work

During Phase 1, you should start learning about some of the facts and the myths about work and then decide if working is right for you.

Learn more about Phase 1 – Learning About Ticket to Work:  
<https://bit.ly/ticket-phase1>





## Phase 2: Getting Ready to Work

During Phase 2, you'll begin to identify your work goals and find a Ticket to Work service provider that can help you to meet your goals.

Learn more about Phase 2 – Getting Ready to Work:  
<https://bit.ly/ticket-phase2>



# Phase 3: Getting a Job

Phase 3 helps prepare you to enter the workforce by networking, job hunting, expanding your work skills, and preparing for interviews.

Learn more about Phase 3 – Getting a Job:

<https://bit.ly/ticket-phase3>



# Phase 4: Managing Your Job

Phase 4 focuses on information that will help you advance on your path to a better future. In this phase, you can expect to find strategies for starting your job off right, managing your money, and understanding the impact of work on benefits.

Learn more about Phase 4 – Managing Your Job:

<https://bit.ly/ticket-phase4>



# Putting It All Together



# Putting It All Together: Question 1

You've made the decision that work is the right step for you to gain independence.

**Who can help you achieve your work goals?**



# Putting It All Together: Question 1 – Answer

Ticket to Work service providers may be able to help you achieve your work goals! As we previously discussed, service providers like State VR agencies, ENs, WIPA projects, and PABSS organizations offer you access to supports, including:

- Benefits and Work Incentives information
- Job search assistance
- Resume and interview preparation
- Transition supports, like requesting reasonable accommodations
- ...and more!

Search for service providers using the Find Help tool at:  
[choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp](https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp)

# Putting It All Together: Question 2

You're now ready to start your path to work.

**What questions can you ask yourself to find a job that's right for you?**



# Putting It All Together: Question 2 – Answer

Some questions to ask yourself include:

- What type of work do I like to do?
- What am I enthusiastic about?
- What kind of job do I want now?
- What kind of job do I want 5 years from now?
- What are my long-term career goals?
- Where do I want to work?

<https://bit.ly/job-you-want-blog>





# Larry's Story (Slide 1 of 2)

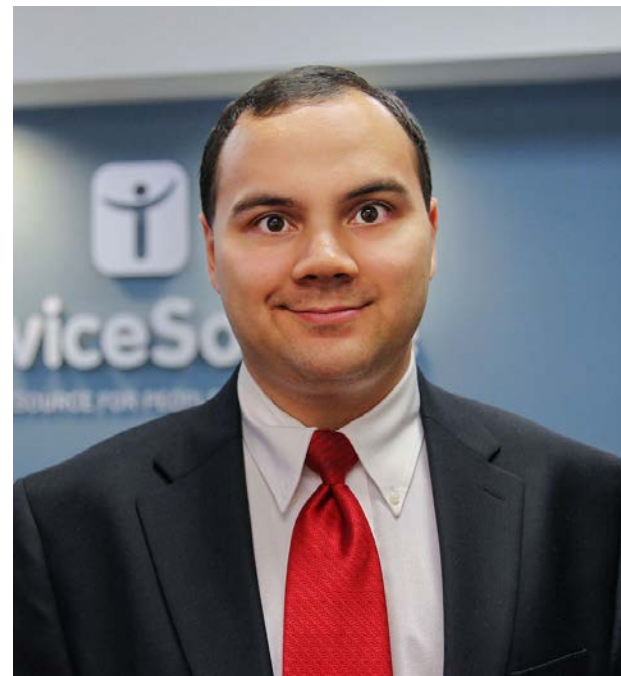
- Larry was born with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) which can interfere with a person's senses, social interactions, communications, and mental health
- With help from the Ticket Program, he received:
  - Benefits counseling and Work Incentives information
  - Support he needed to transition in his career, including resume writing, interview tips, and job leads
  - “Post-employment” support from the Ticket Program and his Employment Network in an agreement known as “Partnership Plus”

# Larry's Story (Slide 2 of 2)

- 2021 will mark Larry's 10<sup>th</sup> year as part of the team that sets up conference rooms for daily meetings
- Larry's confidence in his work has allowed him to identify logistics to increase efficiencies and enhanced his community participation

"I really like working with other people on the set-up crew. It feels good to achieve something together every day."

*Larry, A Ticket to Work Success Story*



<https://bit.ly/larry-success>

# Questions?



# Get Updates!

- Want to learn more about our monthly **WISE webinars**?  
Subscribe to find out our topics each month and be the first to register: <http://bit.ly/WISEsubscribe>
- Interested in learning more about the Ticket Program, employment service providers and other topics?  
Subscribe to the **Choose Work! blog** to get our weekly updates sent directly to your inbox: [http://bit.ly/CW\\_subscribe](http://bit.ly/CW_subscribe)



# How to Get Started

Social Security's Ticket to Work Program has a variety of service providers and other resources ready to help you get started!

## Call the Ticket to Work Help Line:

- 1-866-968-7842
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)

Visit: [choosework.ssa.gov](https://choosework.ssa.gov)

## Connect:

Visit [choosework.ssa.gov/contact/index.html](https://choosework.ssa.gov/contact/index.html) to find us on social media and subscribe to blog and email updates!





## Opt-In to Receive Text Messages

- Get advice and encouragement, and read stories about people who achieved financial independence with help from the Ticket to Work Program.
- If you're interested in receiving text messages from the Ticket Program, please text **TICKET** to **474747**. Standard messaging rates may apply.

Join Us for Our Next WISE Webinar!

**TICKET**  
*to* **Work**

**WISE**  
Work Incentive Seminar Event

**Debunking the 3 Biggest Myths about  
Disability Benefits and Work**

**Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021**

**Time: 3 – 4:30 PM ET**

**Register online: [choosework.ssa.gov/wise](https://choosework.ssa.gov/wise)  
or call 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)**

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[choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise.](https://choosework.ssa.gov/surveys/wise)

