

**It's Your Money!**

**EARN IT**

**SAVE IT**

**GROW IT**

*Developed by the Connect to Work Center, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, Department of Social Services in Conjunction with:*

- **Community Renewal Team of Hartford**
- **Co-Opportunity, Inc. of Hartford**
- **The Internal Revenue Service**
- **And the following state agencies:**
- **Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services**
- **Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security**

**Ask yourself -**

**Do you have enough money for:**

- movies & restaurants?**
- going to school?**
- buying a car ?**
- or buying a home?**

# How do you get more money?

- **Cash benefits are very helpful but usually not enough**
- **Work provides additional money**

**Most people who work have more money whether they have a combination of money from work & from their benefits or from work alone.**

**WORK** can help you get the things  
you need !



**Work helps you have more money.**

**Work can help you with continued health insurance.**



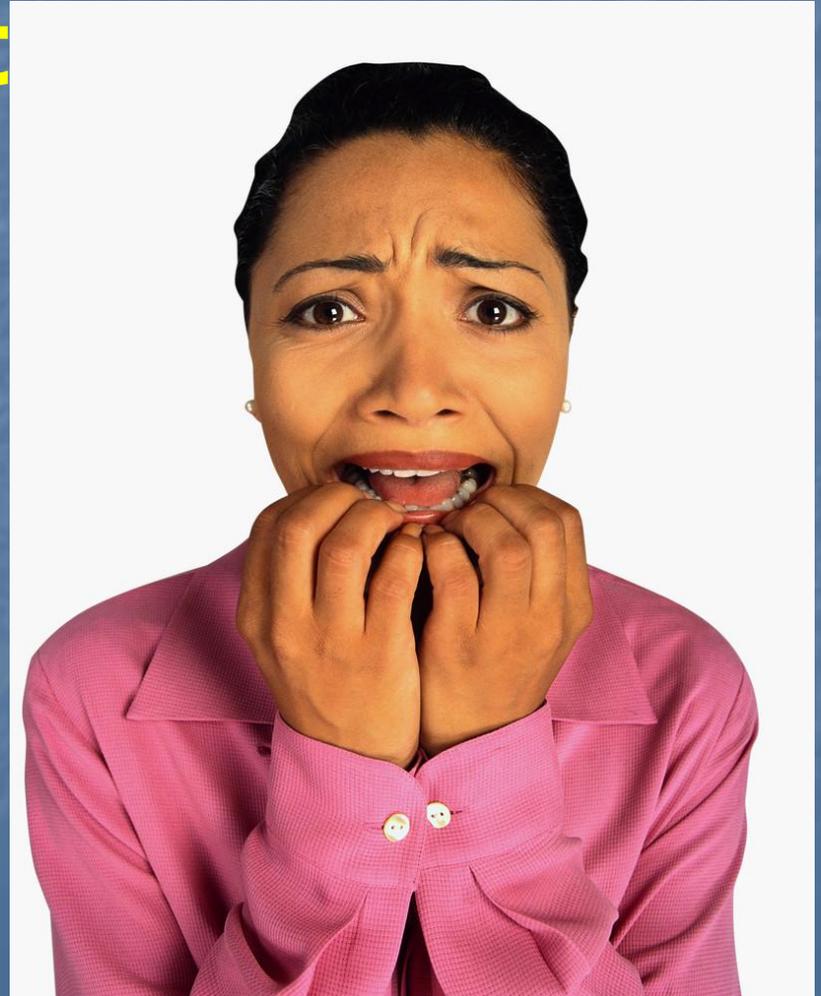
**Work can help you afford better housing, transportation, and continued support services.**

# **WORK**



**Are you thinking that work  
will stop your benefits and  
help that you get**

**WHAT CAN  
HELP??**



Let's learn about two Social Security cash benefits that can often help as you get ready for the World of Work.

**SSI**

**&**

**SSDI**

# Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- **People on SSI from Social Security can get up to \$674/mo**
- **You can work and get money from SSI until you are earning enough to support yourself.**
- **Most people who get SSI have Medicaid/Title XIX, which is health insurance.**
- **Medicaid/Title XIX can continue even when you earn too much to get a cash benefit.**



**Gina now works part time at a coffee shop. Will she lose her SSI benefits?**

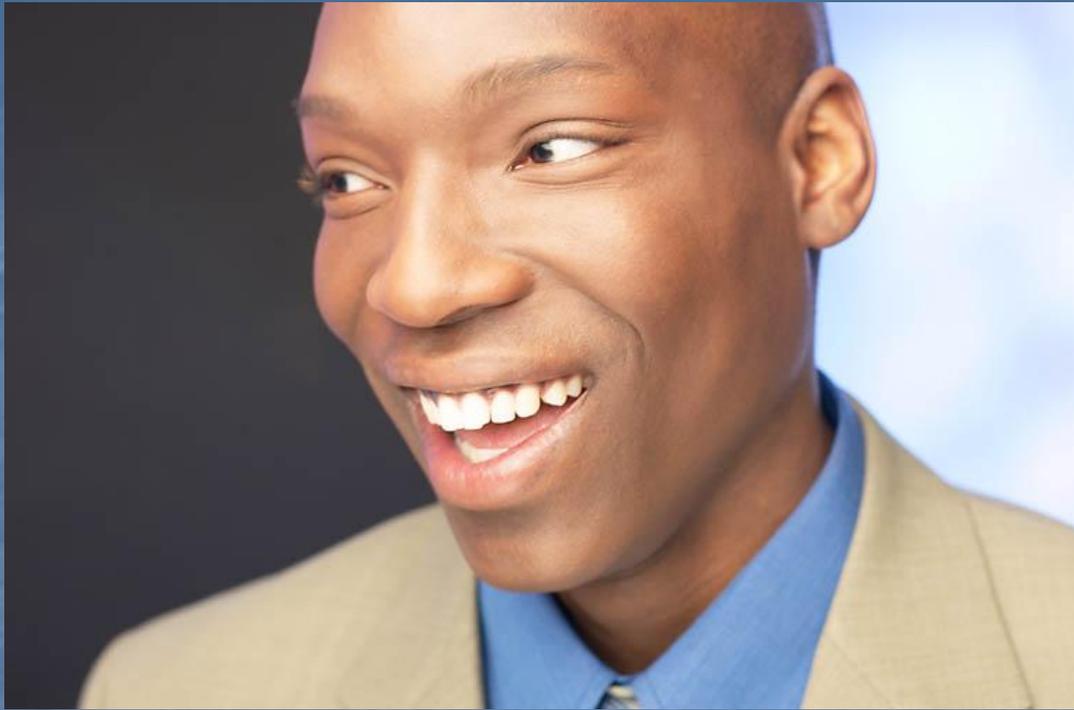


**Depending on how much she earns, Gina may have both wages and some SSI until she goes to full time work.**

**She will keep her Medicaid/Title XIX medical insurance.**

# Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

- **Some people getting benefits from Social Security get SSDI.**
- **You can work part time and still get SSDI.**
- **If you find a good job that pays well, you may have more money by giving up your SSDI benefit.**
- **People on SSDI usually have Medicare health insurance.**
- **Medicare generally continues for many years even if your cash benefit stops.**



**Will Jack lose his  
SSDI cash benefit  
now that he is  
working at**

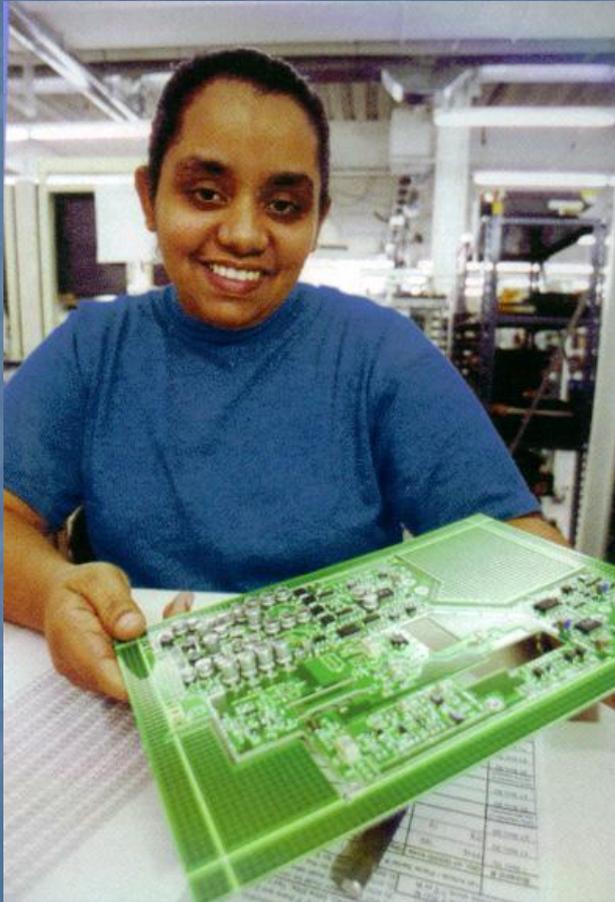


**?**

**No, he has time to try out work while  
continuing on SSDI as he prepares for full time  
work.**

**He will continue to have Medicare health  
insurance.**

# Linda Keeps Medicaid



Linda is enjoying her job at Microboard Processing. DSS granted her MED Connect (formerly MED) since she is working even though she still has a disability. She can have wages and benefits of up to \$75,000 per year and savings of \$10,000 and keep her Medicaid coverage.

# Linda's Story

- Linda has opened a checking account,
- Bought a car that she needs for work
- And is saving to buy her own condo.
- She has done all of this while keeping her health insurance, MED Connect (formerly Medicaid for Employed Disabled).
- A benefits counselor can give you information on ways to save money.

**WHAT OTHER PROGRAMS CAN HELP YOU  
ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS  
JUST LIKE GINA, JACK & LINDA?**



## *CONNECT TO WORK CENTER*

Has Benefits counselors all over the state who can meet with you and your family, case manager, etc. to see how you can have more money by working and keep health insurance.

**Learn how work can help you to have more money and to be more independent!**

Toll free 1-800-773-4636

TTY 1-860-424-4839

# ***SOCIAL SECURITY***

**For information on Social Security benefits call:**

**Social Security Administration**

**1-800-772-1213 for an office near you.**

**Website: [www.ssa.gov/work](http://www.ssa.gov/work)**

# **Are there programs that understand disabilities and can help me get a job?**

## **There are 4 Public Vocational Rehabilitation Programs in Connecticut:**

- Bureau of Rehabilitation Services – serves all people with physical and mental disabilities, except those who are blind. 1-800-537-2549; TDD 1-860-424-4839**
- Board of Education and Services for the Blind - serves people who are blind. Provides assistance with jobs and other services, such as mobility training and travel instruction. 1-800-399-1122; TDD 1-860-602-4221**
- Native American Tribal Vocational Program – serves Native Americans. 1-800-399-1122**
- Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation – serves people who are veterans. 1-800-827-1000**

# Other programs that may help you get a JOB

Toll Free Numbers:

Ticket to Work Program - Social Security

1-800-772-1213 and Maximus 1-866-968-7842

Website: [www.ssa.gov/work](http://www.ssa.gov/work)

Department of Labor – 1-877-872-5627

Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services:

1-800-446-7348

Department of Developmental Services

1-866-433-8192

# SOCIAL SECURITY

Ticket to Work

# What is a Ticket to Work?

- A ticket you can use to get free employment services

## SOCIAL SECURITY

<b>Social Security Administration</b>	
<b>Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency</b>	
Ticket Number	123-45-6789TW
Claim Account Number	987-65-4321 W
Issue Date:	



This ticket is issued to you by the Social Security Administration under the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program. If you want help in returning to work or going to work for the first time, you may offer this ticket to an Employment Network of your choosing or take it to your State vocational rehabilitation agency for services. If you choose an Employment Network and it agrees to take your ticket, or if you choose your State agency and you qualify for services, these providers can offer you services to help you go to work.

An Employment Network provides the services at no cost to you. The Social Security Administration will pay the Employment Network if you assign your ticket to it, and the Employment Network helps you go to work and complies with other requirements of the Program. An Employment Network serving under the Program has agreed to abide by the rules and regulations of the Program under the terms of its agreement with the Social Security Administration for providing services under the Program. Your State agency can tell you about its rules for getting services.

  
Commissioner of Social Security

# Who Will Take My Ticket?

- Social Security has programs in the community that will help people who are on Social Security benefits to get jobs.
- They call these programs Employment Networks.
- The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services is the state agency that will help with getting and keeping a job.

# Why use your Ticket?

- You can pick the Employment Network that will help you get a job.
- You can go to another Employment Network if you aren't happy with the help they're giving you to get or keep a job.

# Examples of Services

- Help with what kind of work you'd like to do
- Help with looking for a job
- Help on the job with a Job Coach

# What Is Partnership Plus?

- If you go to the state Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) for help getting a job you may be able to go to an Employment Network program after that that will help you to keep the job.
- Speak with your BRS Counselor and/or your Benefits counselor to learn more about this.

# What is Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security Program (PABSS)?

**If you are on a Social Security Benefit, PABSS may be able to tell you about programs that will help you to get a job.**

**If you are unhappy with the program you are using, they may be able to help you talk with the program to see if they can make changes or help you to find a new program.**

**PABSS can also help if you get too much money from Social Security and have to pay them back.**

**For more information call: 1-800-842-7303 (toll free);**

**TDD 1-860-297-4380**