

Sept. 21, 2018

To: Employment First stakeholders

From: Acacia McGuire Anderson, Statewide Employment First Coordinator

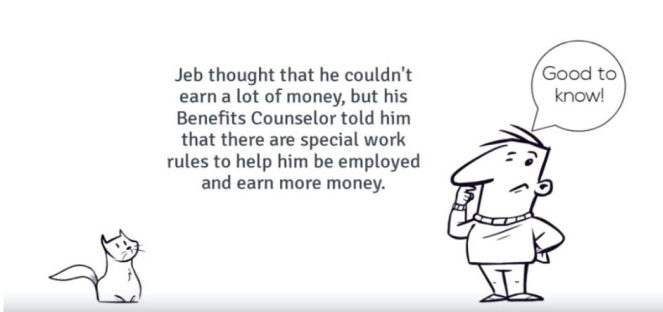
Re: Employment First: New video and Benefits Counseling Update

(Please forward to your local partners & stakeholders)

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Staff at the Work Incentives Network (WIN) created a new video on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and employment. The video is online at:

<https://youtu.be/p4HdpUOvvHw>



Screenshot from new video

The video shows how people receiving SSI can still be employed and earn more money. The video is aimed at providers, but people with disabilities and family members might also find the information useful.

Please share this video widely.

There is also a [fact sheet](#) created by WIN with information about minimum wage, SSI and maintaining benefits.

Related to benefits, we also have a list of provisionally-certified benefits counselors in Oregon. As a reminder, benefits counseling is now part of the Home and Community Based Services waiver and can be billed as Employment Path Community. More information regarding the employment path code for benefits counseling can be found in the expenditure guidelines and the worker's guide. WIN offered free benefits counseling training in July 2018 for a group of about 16 providers from across Oregon.

The list of ODDS-approved benefits counselors is on the I/DD Employment Policy page, under Benefits Counseling:

<https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/EMPLOYMENT/EMPLOYMENT-FIRST/Pages/policy.aspx>

On that same page, there is a [Worker Guide](#), a [FAQ](#), and more.

Thank you for all your work.