



# PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

HIV ADVOCACY & SERVICES SINCE 1995

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OREGON HIV/AIDS CASE MANAGEMENT



## NATIONAL BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

[NATIONALBLACKAIDSDAY.ORG](http://NATIONALBLACKAIDSDAY.ORG)

I AM MY **BROTHER'S** AND **SISTER'S** KEEPER. **FIGHT HIV/AIDS!**

### Next Meeting

**February 9th**

What do the new clinical opioid guidelines mean for clients and providers

**Paul Lewis, MD, MPH** Health Officer MCHD, Tri-County Health Officer & **Mike MacVeigh, MD** Medical Director of MCHD HIV Clinic

February 7th will be the 16th National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. This day is dedicated to targeting HIV care and prevention education to Blacks in the United States and the Diaspora.

The campaign has the following key focus areas:

- **Get Educated** about HIV and AIDS;
- **Get Involved** in community prevention efforts;
- **Get Tested** to know their status; and
- **Get Treated** to receive the continuum of care needed to live with HIV/AIDS.

Information and resources are available via:

<http://nationalblackaidsday.org/toolkits/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/BlackHIVAIDSAwareness/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/group/raciaethnic/africanamericans/index.html>

## YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT STATEMENT

**By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist**

It's that time of year again: time to start preparing to file your taxes. If you receive Social Security benefits, one of the documents you will need when filing your federal income tax return is your Social Security Benefit Statement (Form SSA-1099).

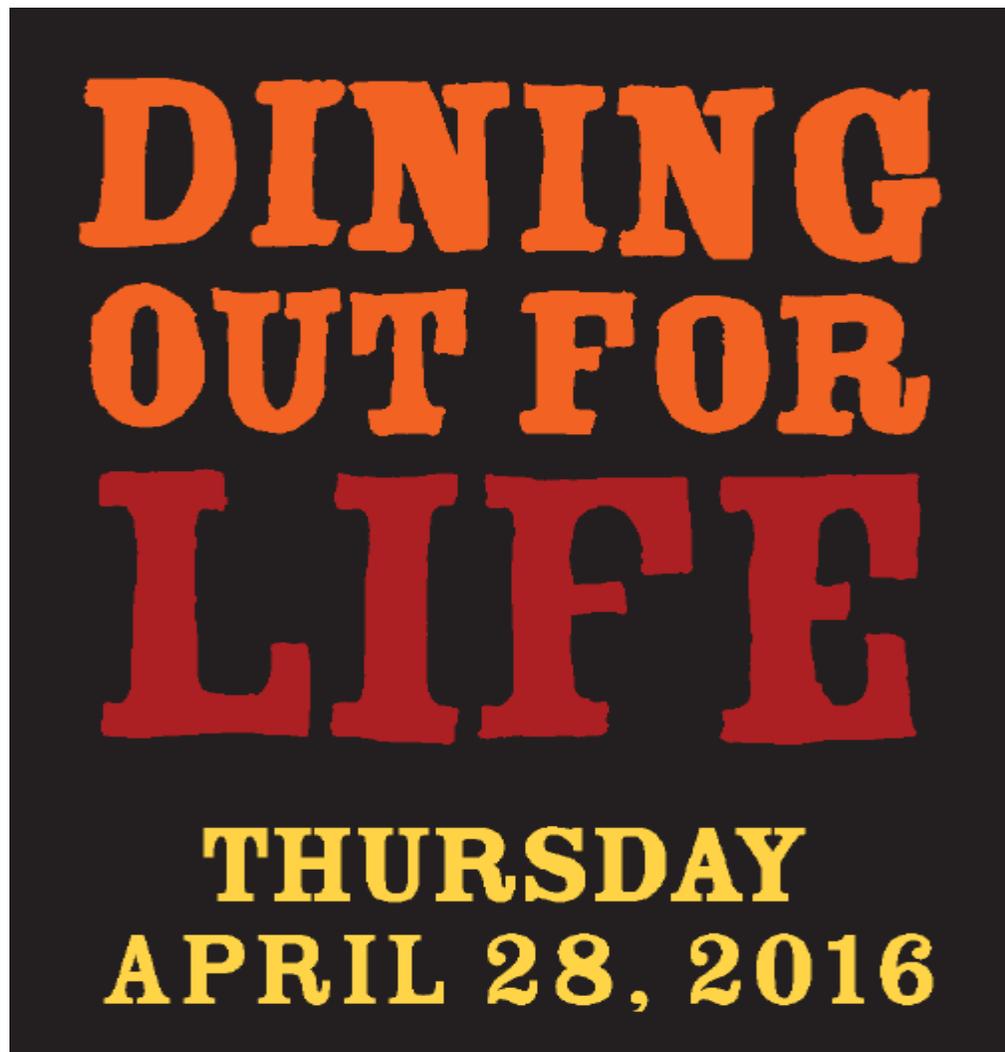
Your Social Security benefits may be taxable. This includes monthly retirement, survivor, and disability benefits. About one-third of people receiving Social Security benefits must pay taxes on some of these benefits, depending on the amount of their taxable income. This usually happens only if you have other substantial income — such as wages, self-employment, interest, dividends, and other taxable income that must be reported on your tax return — in addition to your Social Security benefits. You will never have to pay taxes on more than 85 percent of your Social Security benefits, based on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules. To find out if you must pay taxes on your benefits, you will need your Social Security Benefit Statement (Form SSA-1099). You should automatically receive your 1099 form each January. It shows the total amount of benefits you received from Social Security in the previous year so you know how much Social Security income to report to the IRS on your tax return. The 1099 form is not available for people who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), as SSI payments are not taxable.

Whether you file your taxes early or wait until the deadline, Social Security makes it easy to obtain a replacement 1099 form if you didn't receive one or misplaced yours. You can get an instant replacement quickly and easily by using your secure online *my Social Security* account. If you don't already have an account, you can create one in minutes. Follow the link to the *my Social Security* page, and go to "Sign In" or "Create an Account." Once you are logged in, select the "Replacement Documents" tab to obtain your replacement 1099 form. If you create a *my Social Security* account, you can also use it to keep track of your earnings each year, manage your benefits, and more.

You can also obtain a replacement 1099 form by calling us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778), Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., or by contacting your local Social Security office. If you live outside of the United States, please contact your nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

With a *my Social Security* account, gathering your Social Security information for tax season has never been easier. Open your own personal *my Social Security* account today at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

## Save the Date for Dining Out for Life 2016



Benefits OHSU/Partnership Project and  
EMO's HIV Day Center

A list of participating restaurants located at  
[www.diningoutforlife.com/portland](http://www.diningoutforlife.com/portland)

Keep up on the latest restaurants, give away items and  
volunteer opportunities on:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

## USE YOUR EXTRA DAY TO LEAP INTO RETIREMENT

By Alan Edwards, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

It's leap year and that means one thing — you can add one extra calendar day to your February schedule. Many people are preparing for the upcoming elections. Others might be getting a jump on spring cleaning. What will you do with your extra day?

You could use a few of your extra minutes to check out what Social Security offers at [www.socialsecurity.gov/online services](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online services). There, you can:

- Apply for retirement, disability, and other benefits;
- Get your *Social Security Statement*;
- Appeal a recent medical decision about your disability claim;
- Find out if you qualify for benefits;

If you're planning or preparing for retirement, you can spend a fraction of your extra 24 hours at *my Social Security*. In as little as 15 minutes, you can create a safe and secure *my Social Security* account. More than 21 million Americans already have accounts. In fact, someone opens one about every 6 seconds. Join the crowd and sign up today at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount). With a personalized *my Social Security* account, you can:

- Obtain an instant, personalized estimate of your future Social Security benefits;
- Verify the accuracy of your earnings record — your future benefit amounts are based on your earnings record;
- Change your address and phone number, if you receive monthly Social Security benefits;
- Sign up for or change direct deposit of your Social Security benefits;
- Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S for tax season; and

Obtain a record of the Social Security and Medicare taxes you've paid.

And if you have a little time to spare, you can always check out our blog, *Social Security Matters*, at [blog.socialsecurity.gov](http://blog.socialsecurity.gov). There, you will find guest posts by Social Security experts, in-depth articles, and answers to many of your questions about retirement, benefits, and healthcare. Each post is tagged by topic so you can easily search for what matters most to you.

Leaping from webpage to webpage, you can easily see that Social Security has you covered all year long, not just on that extra day in February. Remember, you can access our homepage that links to our wide array of online services any day of the — at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

### Social Security Q & A

#### Question:

**I was told I shouldn't be carrying my Social Security card around. Is that true?**

#### Answer:

We encourage you to keep your Social Security card at home in a safe place. Don't carry it with you. Even if you're going to new job or to meet someone who needs it, all they really need is your number—not your card. Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America, and the best way to avoid becoming a victim is to safeguard your card and number. To learn more, visit our Social Security number and card page at [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber).

**Question:****How long does it take to get a decision after I apply for disability benefits?****Answer:**

The time it takes to get a decision on your disability application can vary depending on:

- The nature of your disability;
  - How quickly we can get your medical evidence from your doctor or other medical source;
  - Whether it is necessary to send you for a medical examination; and
- Whether we review your application for quality purposes.

If you would like to apply for disability benefits, you can use our online application.

Applying online for disability benefits offers several advantages:

- You can start your disability claim immediately. There is no need to wait for an appointment;
- You can apply from the convenience of your home, or on any computer; and

You can avoid trips to a Social Security office, saving you time and money.

For more information, go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

**Question:****Why is there a five-month waiting period for Social Security disability benefits?****Answer:**

The law states that Social Security disability benefits begin with the sixth full month after the date your disability began. You're not entitled to benefits for any month prior to that. Learn more at our website: [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability).

**Question:****How do Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments differ?****Answer:**

The two programs are financed differently and have different eligibility requirements.

Workers and employers fund Social Security retirement, survivors, and disability insurance through taxes on workers' earnings. Generally, we pay Social Security benefits to eligible workers and their families based on the worker's earnings. Meanwhile, general taxes fund the SSI program, which serves the needy. SSI eligibility depends largely on limited income and resources. Please visit [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) for more information.

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The editor is Julia Lager-Mesulam.

Comments/questions about this publication should be directed to:

Julia Lager-Mesulam at [lagermes@ohsu.edu](mailto:lagermes@ohsu.edu),  
or call (503) 230-1202, FAX (503) 230-1213,  
5525 SE Milwaukie Ave. Portland, OR 97202

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