

# Promise Newsletter March 2018

## **Join Us. We'll Provide the Hot Chocolate!**

This winter, we are offering trainings and services for teens and families:

1. Be a better advocate.
2. Learn about the essential skills employers are looking for.
3. Increase your financial confidence.
4. Get an update on your Social Security benefits . . . This is especially important if your teen will soon be 18!

Join us— We'll provide the hot chocolate!

Contact your Promise Counselor!

Or call: 1-855-480-5618

Learn More About Promise Services!

## **5 Things You Need to Know about Social Security Medical Reviews**

Medical Reviews are often feared and neglected... Here are the 5 things you need to know:

1. Social Security Reviews Everybody!
2. Get Medical Conditions Reviewed Periodically!
3. Medical Cessation
4. Appealing a Medical Cessation
5. Help is available

Click here for more information

## **Promise Services Guide**

Over the course of the project, we've all worked together to uncover and gather resources that will help youth and families to succeed when it comes to training for, finding, and keeping a job. Recently, we've compiled all that information into a single resource, so you have everything you need right at your fingertips. You can download your free copy [here](#).

## **Ellie's Updates**

### **Promise Services Summary**

Do you have a Promise Story? Tell us how [Promise has impacted you!](#)

Check out the [Promise Services Summary](#) and find out how Promise is impacting Wisconsin Promise Youth and Families. The more impact we can have with more youth and their family members, the more we will be able to demonstrate how Wisconsin Promise Services and Supports can help to increase participants' education, employment, and financial self-sufficiency.

## **A Community Forum: Wausau, WI**

### **Employing Young Adults with Barriers:**

#### **Finding Workforce Solutions**

Business's have workforce needs and young adults with disabilities and other barriers have the skills and the desire to work. Join the discussion to help identify how to make these connections.

When: May 8, 2018

Time: 5 PM – 7:30 PM

Where: Great Dane Pub and Brewing Company

Cost: FREE

[Register Here](#)

[Click here for more information.](#)

### **Lessons Learned:**

#### **Wisconsin Promise's Response to SSA's Request:**

##### **If we were to do another youth demonstration, what would you recommend?**

Promise has been a good way to test a comprehensive package of services and supports with many youth and family members. It would be helpful if future demonstration projects improved the delivery and accessibility of each service available through Promise.

**Customized Employment and Systematic Instruction Capacity Building.** Both Customized Employment and Systematic Instruction can help increase the employment outcomes of individuals with disabilities. Future grants could help states build capacity of high quality Customized Employment and Systematic Instruction providers.

**Customized Employment.** Customized Employment is a process that helps match youth's or family member's skills, interests, and assets to needs of local employers in situations where identifying these skills, interests, assets and local provider needs might be difficult. Some examples of these situations include when the youth receiving SSI or a family member is nonverbal, has behavior problems, does not engage in many activities, or has spotty employment history.

**Systematic Instruction.** There are times when on-the-job supports are needed. Systematic instruction is an evidence-based method to systematically teach on-the-job skills and identify any needed long term on-the-job supports. Systematic instruction works by maximizing independence and reducing any needed on the job supports. (This works best when there is a good job match between the youth's skills/abilities/interests and the job the employer needs done.)

**Improve the service delivery and accessibility** of Promise services: Work Incentive Benefits Counseling, Financial Literacy, Self-Advocacy Training, Social Skills Training, Parent Training (or Family Advocacy Training) in every state.

1. Create more group interactive activities.
2. Create easier to follow one-on-one consultation guides.
3. Create more materials and activities that are accessible for youth with a variety of disabilities (including youth with cognitive limitations, youth who are nonverbal, youth with behavior problems, youth with visual or hearing limitations, youth who speak another language or have an alternative mode of communication).
4. Create more ways to share information in a variety of formats including one pagers, postcards, and short 2-5-minute video clips.
5. Develop an app (or apps) with reminders/push notifications that has all this information and a variety of information in one place.
6. Create guidance for peer to peer information sharing and networking.
7. Create materials for different cultures and regions (e.g., urban vs. rural).

## **Contact Us**

Contact Your DVR Counselor

Family Advocates

Promise Financial Coaches

Benefits Counseling Providers

Promise Research Team

## **Steering Committee Profile Members and Emails**

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