



Community

Connections

Catholic Charities

October 2021 Meeting Recap

Spotlight: Social Security Disability—Change & Confusion



The Law Offices of
Jeffrey A. Rabin & Associates
Social Security Disability and SSI Advocacy

We would like to thank Jeffrey Rabin Esq. for speaking to us about this important topic.
Email: jeff@rkblegal.com to receive monthly newsletter on SS law trends and changes.

What 'Totally Disabled' *Really* Means

- Person must be able to prove they are suffering from symptoms caused by a medical problem that so impacts function that they can't work for at least 12 months.
- The *diagnosis* does not matter! It's all about the person's *symptoms and function*. How do the symptoms related to the person's medical problems affect their ability to do work?
- The test is whether the person can do ANY KIND of full time work activity. Disability programs are not about the medical issue, but what they can DO despite their medical problem.

Two Forms of Disability Benefits

1. Social Security Disability Insurance

- Must be totally disabled
- Worked and paid FICA taxes for 10 years and at least 5 of the 10 years before disability

2. Supplemental Security Income

- Must be totally disabled
- Must be indigent—single individual less than \$2K in non-exempt resources
- Spouses assets / income are 'deemed,' which means what belongs to you belongs to spouse and minor children.

'Ladder' Questions for Disability Eligibility

1. Are you working, earning min. of \$1,310 gross per month? If yes, you are not eligible.
2. Is there a severe impairment that impacts function? If no, not eligible.
3. Does evidence meet listings of impairments based on medical criteria? If no, not eligible
4. Can you function at any job you have done in last 15 years? If yes, not eligible.
5. Are there ANY other jobs you could do? Ticket taker, assembly line, etc.? If yes, not eligible.

Questions for Every Mental Health Case & Many Physical Impairment Claims

1. Can you understand, remember or apply info?
2. Can you interact properly with others?
3. Can you concentrate, persist or maintain pace?
4. Can you adapt or manage yourself—deal with stress, change, supervision?

In most cases, 2 of these 4 questions must be proven. Need evidence of symptoms and how symptoms impact function. Substance abuse not enough.

Claims Can Be Won! 3 Key Rules...

1. Must see doctor regularly. Clinical charts are mandatory! No chart, no evidence.
2. Must describe symptoms to doctor—tell the truth!
3. Must be treating symptoms with right specialists.—no family practice doctors.

MEMBER NOTES

Click on Organization Name to Access Website

Illinois State Representative Michelle Mussman

- Exciting news from Comptroller in Illinois! Backlog has gone down dramatically, allowing constituents to get their healthcare covered.
- Waiting on mortgage assistance from federal government—will likely not see anything until January. [H.O.M.E. DuPage](#) is a great resource for mortgage help.

Catholic Charities

- New **Stepping Up** group – meeting virtually. 8 weeks starting Tuesday 10/26. Program for men and women who want to improve their boundaries and communication, cope with pandemic, better understand racial identity and more. Free of charge – but need access to computer. See attached flier for more information.
- Looking for part-time receptionist (Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30am-4:30pm) at Downers Grove office. Spanish-speaker preferred but not required. Apply [HERE](#).

WorkNet DuPage

- Open for walk-ins and can use resource room.
- Made in DuPage: focusing on different DuPage County manufacturers throughout the month to promote each business and their employment opportunities. Learn more [HERE](#).

Metropolitan Family Services

- Lots of vacancies! Recruiting families with children 0-3 and pregnant moms.
- Staff positions open for Parent Child Educators. Seeking candidates with bachelor degree who want to get involved in social and education service fields.

AMITA Health

- Community Health Needs Assessment launching soon! We work with Impact DuPage to identify the needs of the community and develop strategies to work on those needs with community partners. Flier with more information on survey coming soon.



Join Us At Our Next Meeting

Join us **November 18th** for our next virtual meeting on Unemployment. If you would like to join our panel, please let us know!

Remember to share flyers about upcoming events so they can be included in the next newsletter!

Join Community Connections!

The **Community Connections** Network Group, comprised of various social service organizations, churches, and other community service stakeholders, meets every 3rd Thursday, from 10-11:30 a.m. each month except July, August, and December. Membership is **FREE** and provides a forum for members to hear about community needs and resources for meeting them. Each month Catholic Charities hosts a new presenter and members can share new information about their agencies and upcoming events / meetings / seminars. To become a member, contact Joy Newburn at 630-519-6547 or jnewburn@cc-doj.org

Community Connections Members

360 Youth Services
Access Community Health Network
Avenue Women's Center
Bethany Christian Services
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
C.A.B.S. Autism and Behavior Specialists
Catholic Charities, DuPage County
Daybreak of Elmhurst
Goodwill Industries
Department of Human Services-DuPage FCR
Ducap-Positive Choices for Youth
DuPage Community Clinic
DuPage County Community Services
DuPage County Health Department
DuPage County Human Services
DuPage County Shared Housing
DuPage Family Self-Sufficiency
DuPage Federation-Open Door
DuPage Health Coalition
DuPage HOME
DuPage PADS, Inc.
Elmhurst Walk-In Assistance Network
Evangelical Child and Family Agency
Family Shelter Service
First Institute
Glen Ellyn Community USD 41 & 89
Glen Ellyn Senior Center
Goodwill Industries
Hamdard Center
Head Start-Metropolitan Family Services
HCS Family Services
HOPE Fair Housing
Hope's Front Door
Illinois Care Health Plan
League of Women Voters
Literacy DuPage
Loaves & Fishes Community Services
Love Inc
Metropolitan Asian Family Services
Metropolitan Family Services
Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans
NAMI DuPage
Naperville CUSD 203/Parents As Teachers
Naperville Township
Northwestern Medicine-Warrenville Cancer Ctr.
PACT, Inc.
People's Resource Center
Positive Parenting
Project Help
Prairie State Legal Services
Reclaim13
Rush Medical Group
Salvation Army
Senior Home Sharing
Serenity House Counseling Services, Inc.
Sharing Connections
St. Margaret Mary Church
St. Pius X Church
Teen Parent Connection
United Way of DuPage/West Cook
University of Illinois Extension
Veteran's Assistance Commission of DuPage
West Suburban Community Pantry
Wheaton Youth Outreach-Jubilee Village
Worknet DuPage
World Relief
YWCA-Metropolitan Chicago
Young Invincibles

Happy Halloween! God Bless!

Stepping Up



Join Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet for a virtual class that promotes empowerment, peace and ways to cope with life during this difficult season. Meeting virtually on Tuesdays for 8 weeks

October 26th through December 14th 10-11:30 am



During this time, more than ever we need to take care of ourselves and keep moving in a positive direction. Stepping Up is a group that offers support, encouragement, and some practical steps to make life feel more manageable. Stepping Up is a nonjudgmental place to share feelings and gain helpful skills for a better life.

Topics include:

- Living beyond your past
- Coping during a pandemic
- Time management
- Goal setting
- Effective communication
- Budgeting
- Boundaries
- Racial and cultural identity

Need assistance connecting? All you need is a device with a camera and microphone and we can help!

To register, contact Joy Newburn at (630) 519-6547 or jnewburn@cc-doj.org

Participant Registration

Name _____

Agency/Church: _____

Phone: _____

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____



Catholic Charities is a faith-based

MAKE YOUR WAY

Young Adults Ages 17-24
GET YOUR CAREER STARTED!

- PAID INTERNSHIPS
- HELP GETTING A JOB
- FREE ONE-TO-ONE CAREER PLANNING
- UP TO \$10,000 IN TRAINING GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS



TO APPLY

TEXT **MYWAY** to **630.857.0842**

For More Information Call **630.955.2070** or visit worknetdupage.org



@workNetDuPage



DuPage County Workforce
Development Division
YOUTH SERVICES



The workNet DuPage Career Center of DuPage County is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aid and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



DUPAGE COUNTY RECORDER &
VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF DUPAGE COUNTY

FREE EVENT!

DUPAGE VETERAN'S RESOURCE FAIR ★

**NOVEMBER 4, 2021
9:00AM-2:00PM**

**JACK T. KNUEPFER BUILDING
FIRST FLOOR - AUDITORIUM
421 N COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, ILLINOIS**



EVENT & VENDORS

OVER 50 AGENCIES!

Enjoy refreshments, door prizes, receive information from our participating vendors.

**DUPAGE COUNTY RECORDER, KATHLEEN V. CARRIER -
SIGN UP FOR HONOR REWARDS, A FREE INCENTIVE PROGRAM
FOR OUR SERVICE MEMBERS
RECORD MILITARY DISCHARGE, DD214, AT NO CHARGE**

**VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF DUPAGE COUNTY -
INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS FOR VETERAN PROGRAMS**

**ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE -
VETERAN DESIGNATION ON DRIVER'S LICENSE/STATE ID**

**VENDORS, ORGANIZATIONS & AGENCIES -
LOCAL BUSINESSES, STATE & COUNTY AGENCIES, SOCIAL
WORKERS, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS & OTHER VENDORS**

**VENDORS REGISTER BY OCTOBER 29TH TO GUARANTEE
PRINT RECOGNITION - SPACE IS LIMITED.**

**VENDORS - JOIN US!
WWW.DUPAGECO.ORG/VRF**



DuPage

DUAL DIAGNOSIS SUPPORT GROUP

**1ST AND 3RD TUESDAYS
AT 7-8:30 PM**

LOCATED AT **NAMI DUPAGE**
115 N COUNTY FARM RD,
WHEATON, IL 60187

Millions of Americans live with a "dual diagnosis," which means they experience **mental illness and a substance use disorder simultaneously**. Dealing with a dual diagnosis can feel challenging and isolating. Support groups allow members to share frustrations, successes, where to find the best community resources and tips on what works best when trying to recover.

THE GROUP IS LED BY
A **NAMI DUPAGE PEER COUNSELOR**
AND A **LICENSED CLINICIAN**

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT
namidupage.org/support

Loaves & Fishes now has **two locations** for food distribution



1871 High Grove Lane, Naperville



580 Exchange Court, Aurora

Market Shopping

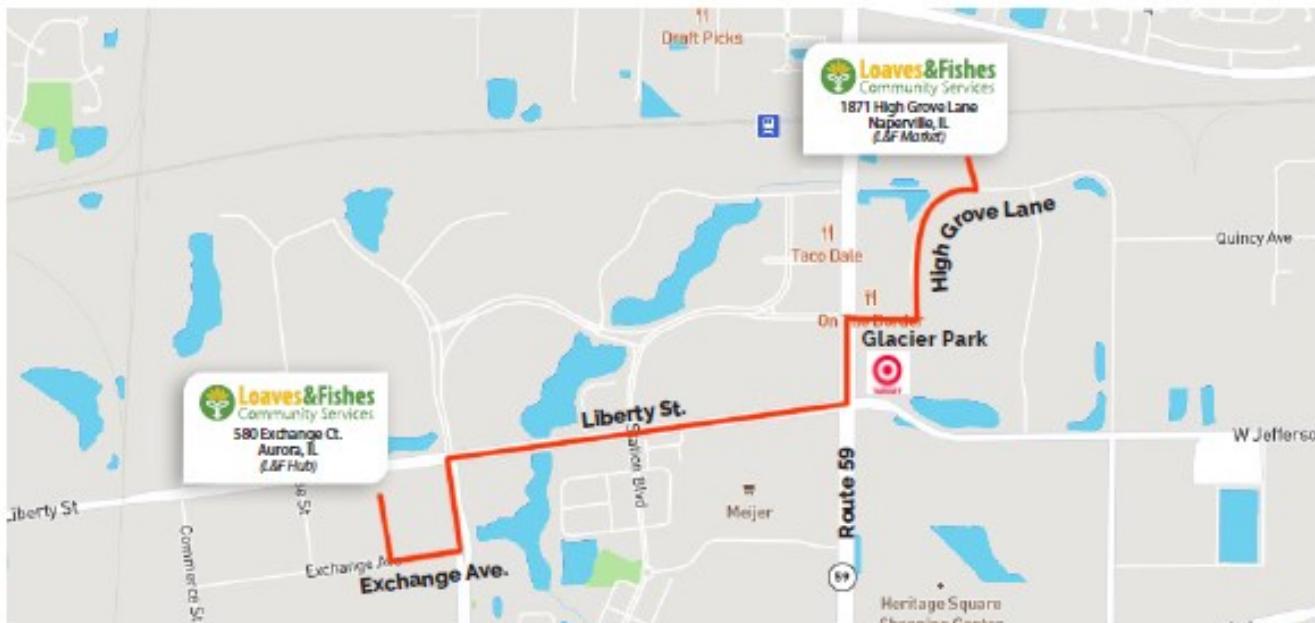
Tuesday 9 am - 3 pm
Wednesday 9 am - 3 pm
Thursday 9 am - 3 pm
Thursday evening 5 - 7 pm
Saturday 8 am - Noon

Curbside Grocery Pick-Up

Saturday 8 - 10 am
Monday 5 - 7 pm
evening

Starts October 30, 2021

Food pick up is once a week per family from any Loaves & Fishes location. Bring your Loaves & Fishes card for check in. **Questions?** Call 630.355.3663



St. Joan of Arc Church and School



HARVEST SUNDAY

Annual Food Drive

November 14, 2021

from 7am-2pm

Please come to the North Parking Lot
(Off Front St. in Lisle. Look for trucks on the west side)

Volunteers will be on hand to take your food donations, no need to get out of your car.

Contact Outreach Coordinator, Matt Zurek
mzurek@sjalisle.org if you have questions.