



Heartland Kidney Network 2009

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Organizations can:

- ❖ Answer your questions about how part-time, full-time, or seasonal work would affect your individual disability benefits and other benefits you may receive from Federal, State and local programs.
- ❖ Respond to your questions about how work would affect your health care.
- ❖ Assist with your questions about SSA work incentives and work incentives of other programs.
- ❖ Discuss your individual employment goals, including possible barriers and the resources or services you would need to overcome any barriers. A WIPA can also help you find those resources and services.
- ❖ Help you plan how to use work incentives or other benefits for a successful return to work.

What are some of the other benefits to working?

- ❖ People who remain active *in* work are more likely to be transplanted and to keep their transplants longer
- ❖ Fewer barriers to healthcare, like paying for medicines or medical co-pays
- ❖ **Higher income to pay bills and be involved in activities**
- ❖ You are less likely to become depressed
- ❖ *Improved self-esteem*
- ❖ Social opportunities
- ❖ Increased independence
- ❖ Insurance coverage

To locate a WIPA project nearest you, call 866-968-7842 (TTY 866-833-2967). You can also find a list with contact information at <https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/oesp/providers.nsf/bystate>

For more information on how you can continue to have an active lifestyle:

- If you are on dialysis, talk with your social worker
 - Heartland Kidney Network has links and tools for download at www.heartlandkidney.org
- or patients can call 1-800-444-9965