



ILLINOIS EMPLOYMENT FIRST UPDATE 6/18/18

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WEBINARS

- **Topical Webinar: Part Two of a Five-Part Series on the Transition to Employment for Youth Receiving SSI**

Date: Thursday, June 28, at 2 p.m. (ET)

Topic: Employment Options for Youth SSI Recipients

Sponsor: Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP), U.S. Department of Labor

This webinar will showcase viable employment services and pre-employment transition services for youth recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The services are designed to foster collaboration between partners and engage businesses, leading to improved employment outcomes. Attendees will learn about apprenticeship and other employment models and how these models can be applied in their states to better prepare recipients of youth SSI for competitive careers. This webinar is the second in a five-part series for the SSI Youth Recipient and Employment Transition Formative Research Project. Through this project, ODEP is building the knowledge base about SSI youth recipients and the factors that influence their successful transition to sustained, gainful employment.

To register: Register in advance by clicking on the link below.

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1771763/E5448B7042F057012183C41BACBEBB89>

- **FEATURED WEBINAR: 7/18/18, 12:00-1:30 PM**
Equip for Equality's Employment Rights Helpline Webinar

Please join Hannah Walsh from Equip for Equality to learn more about the Employment Rights Helpline. Many topics and issues like disclosure, requesting accommodations and frequently reported concerns and issues in Illinois will be explored.

***Scroll down to see the webinar access link.

The Employment Rights Helpline is a new, free, statewide service to provide people with disabilities with legal rights information and advice, as well as self-advocacy assistance to help them navigate employment issues that arise. Equip for Equality is the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy System that safeguards the rights of people with disabilities in Illinois.

The concept of the Employment Rights Helpline was an outgrowth of ADA 25 Chicago, a year-long initiative launched by The Chicago Community Trust that inspired hundreds of partner organizations to leverage the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act by expanding inclusion in the Chicago region. The Trust is also the primary funder of the Employment Rights Helpline. "We are very grateful to The Chicago Community Trust, which has been a long-time supporter of Equip for Equality initiatives," said Zena Naiditch, President and CEO of Equip for Equality. "The latest partnership between Equip for Equality and The Chicago Community Trust is an exciting and innovative program that will allow people with disabilities to maximize their employment opportunities," said Anna Lee, the Trust's Program Officer of Basic Human Needs & Social Services.

Historically, the unemployment rate for people with disabilities has been significantly higher than that for the general population making the need for an Employment Rights Helpline especially critical. "Work is a fundamental part of adult life providing dignity, purpose, self-esteem and a sense of belonging to the community," said Barry C. Taylor, VP for Civil Rights and Systemic Litigation at Equip for Equality. "Unfortunately, discrimination against people with disabilities remains pervasive in the workplace. The Helpline is an important new tool to promote equal opportunity and combat discrimination."

To access the Helpline, people with disabilities can call toll-free: **1-844-RIGHTS-9** (or **1-844-744-4879**) and a trained attorney will respond to the call. People with disabilities can also email the Helpline at: employment@equipforequality.org

Helpline staff can:

- Discuss legal rights under the ADA
- Answer employment rights questions
- Assist with reasonable accommodation requests
- Help understand options
- Share fact sheets, sample letters and forms

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[Join WebEx meeting](#)

Meeting number (access code): 803 260 796

Meeting password: F5mTyYiW

Join from a video system or application

Dial 803260796@illinois.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0002 US Toll

[Global call-in numbers](#)

[Can't join the meeting?](#)

EMPLOYER PEER TO PEER DISABILITY & BUSINESS EVENT and SHRM DIVERSITY & INCLUSION JOB FAIR



Register Now: Disability & Business

A Peer-to-Peer Conversation on Inclusion

Join the CBLN on Wednesday, July 25 from 3:00 – 5:30 pm, at Northern Trust, 50 S. LaSalle Street, Chicago, to explore how Chicago-area employers, in partnership with the CBLN are driving results through disability inclusion. Learn how business can benefit from a diverse workforce that recognizes the talents and contributions of workers with disabilities. Hear about efforts underway to develop talent pipelines and advance employment outcomes through recruiting, internships, mentoring and career development opportunities. Expand relationships with business leaders who are working to advance disability inclusion across their organizations. Listen to leaders from CBLN member businesses discuss the importance of inclusion within their organizations, on behalf of their customers and within their communities. Stay for refreshments and networking to build relationships with peers who are business champions for inclusion within their own organizations and the community. This event, focused specifically on our corporate partners, will fill quickly so don't miss your chance to register. Information and event details can be found [online here](#).



SHRM Hosts National Diversity & Inclusion Job Fair

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is bringing together diverse candidates from around the country looking to connect with corporations who want to diversify their talent pipeline for a [National Diversity & Inclusion Job Fair](#) on Wednesday, June 20th from 1:00-6:00 pm at the Union League Club of Chicago. More than 30 companies are participating in the event, and recruiting for a range of [open positions](#). Space is still available for both job candidates and businesses who would like to participate. Additional information and a registration link are available [online here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

New ACL Funding Opportunities to Enhance Access to Home Modifications and Strengthen Financial Literacy & Preparedness of Family Caregivers

Promoting Aging in Place by Enhancing Access to Home Modifications

Older adults overwhelmingly prefer to stay in their homes and communities as they age, but millions live in homes that lack accessibility features that support doing so safely and independently. Home modifications and repairs can help older adults age in place and maintain their independence. In many cases, home modifications can also help to prevent falls and other accidents. ACL intends to award one cooperative agreement designed to address barriers to optimal access to and use of home modifications that support aging in place. The project will be expected to provide technical assistance and serve as a repository for home modification best practices and innovations that can be replicated at the local level.

Funding opportunity number: HHS-2018-ACL-AOA-HMOD-0308

Estimated total program funding: \$250,000

Proposals due: August 13, 2018

View the full funding announcement on [grants.gov](#)

Strengthening the Financial Literacy and Preparedness of Family Caregivers

Family caregivers often experience significant financial burdens while also facing the challenges of managing the financial affairs of their loved ones. To help address these issues, ACL intends to award one cooperative agreement to undertake activities to improve the financial literacy and preparedness of family caregivers in two key areas: 1) for family caregivers to ensure their own financial well-being,

and 2) to better equip them to undertake “financial caregiving” tasks on behalf of a care recipient. Objectives for this project include advancing the understanding of the need for and the available interventions to improve the financial literacy of family caregivers; develop and test new interventions to improve/strengthen financial literacy among family caregivers; and, broadly disseminate project findings, new interventions, and best practices that emerge from the project.

Funding opportunity number: HHS-2018-ACL-AOA-FLFC-0309

Estimated total program funding: \$250,000

Proposals due: August 10, 2018

View the full funding announcement on grants.gov

Help Equip for Equality Identify the Legal Advocacy Needs of People with Disabilities in Illinois



Equip for Equality

Advancing the Human & Civil Rights of People with Disabilities in Illinois

Please Help Equip for Equality Identify the Legal Advocacy Needs of People with Disabilities in Illinois

Equip for Equality is seeking your input on how we can best meet the legal advocacy needs of people with disabilities in Illinois. We have a priorities planning process and we ask the public to offer ideas that will help us implement priorities that are valued most in the disability community. Please share your thoughts with us. **There are 3 ways for you to let us know what you think.**

. In Person: We are hosting a Public Meeting in Chicago. This meeting allows people with disabilities, family members, advocates, service providers and other interested parties to provide us with input on how to allocate our resources.

Thursday, June 28, 2018

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Equip for Equality

20 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 300

Chicago, Illinois 60602

[Click here to RSVP and to request an accommodation.](#)

A sign language interpreter and real time captioning will be present.

. Via the Phone:

On June 28, at 2:00 pm, call 1-800-910-8278. When prompted, dial Participant Code 1940990.

. Online: You can also give your input online by [clicking here to fill out our online survey](#).

Thank you from Equip for Equality!