



Expedited Supplemental Security Income Program

November 2016

John R. Kasich, Governor
Tracy J. Plouck, Director

Are you an individual living with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness, or a mental health worker assisting an individual who lives with SPMI and plans to apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)?

If so, he or she may be eligible to participate in the **OhioMHAS Expedited Supplemental Security Income Program**.

The Expedited SSI Program was developed as a collaborative effort to reduce the processing time for Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI) and Medicaid benefits. Having access to a cash benefit can be a stabilizing factor for individuals who do not have a current source of income. Cash benefits, such as SSI/SSDI can provide a way to pay for housing and food. By reducing the processing time, individuals may have quicker access to cash benefits and stable income.

Who is eligible?

Individuals who have had at least one psychiatric hospitalization in the past six months, two or more psychiatric hospitalizations in the past two years totaling 20 days or more, have been receiving/needing at least weekly mental health services for a period of three months or have received at least bi-weekly mental health services for a period of six months.

Examples of qualifying diagnoses include, but are not limited to: psychotic disorders with hallucinations or delusions, mood disorders, anxiety disorder, schizophrenia, major depressive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, dissociative and conversion disorders.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Expedited SSI Program, please contact Megan McElroy of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services at Megan.McElroy@mha.ohio.gov or expeditedssi@mha.ohio.gov.

Please note: Individuals whose symptoms are well-controlled by treatment, including medications, or for whom clear clinical picture has not yet been established may not be eligible to participate in the Expedited SSI Project; however they can apply on their own at www.ssa.gov, make an in-person visit to their local SSA office to apply (local offices can be located at 1-866-964-1723) or contact an Ohio Benefit Bank site (local offices can be located at 1-800-648-1176) to request assistance.

mha.ohio.gov