

HOW CAN MY CHILD QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT?

If you feel your child is eligible to receive SSI or if you have applied for SSI on behalf of your child and your child has been denied benefits, you may contact the Centralized Intake Unit of South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. at (800) 496-4570 to be screened for eligibility during intake hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. At the initial review, we will decide if you are financially eligible. An intake staff member will obtain information about your income, family size, assets and the matter for which you are seeking help. All information you provide SJLS remains confidential. If you are financially eligible, we then decide whether your case is one for which we can provide representation based on our established priorities. If the case is one which we cannot handle, we will attempt to refer you to an organization which will provide assistance. If your case is one that we usually handle, but because of limited resources we are unable to handle at present, we will try to find other legal representation for you.

WHO WE ARE

South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) is a private non-profit law firm whose mission is to provide high quality civil legal services to low-income residents of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem Counties.

WHAT WE DO

SJLS provides free legal services aiding low-income clients in selected civil cases based on established priorities. SJLS most often provides advice, brief services or extended representation in the following areas: Supplemental Security Income Benefits, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, General Assistance, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Unemployment Benefits, Domestic Violence, Landlord/Tenant Disputes, Public Housing Rights, Section 8 Housing Assistance, Migrant Farmworker Rights, Rights of the Elderly, Bankruptcy, Foreclosure, Consumer Issues and IRS Tax Disputes.

FOR ATTORNEYS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING

If you want to participate in this Project, please contact:

Michelle T. Nuciglio, Esquire
Director of Pro Bono Services
856-403-8620
MNuciglio@lsnj.org

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING?

- ◆ The satisfaction of donating your time and talents to helping needy individuals in your community.
- ◆ Time towards satisfaction of your annual *Madden* requirement.
- ◆ Malpractice insurance at no cost for the duration of the client's case.
- ◆ All reasonable case-related costs covered by SJLS or exempt by Court Rule.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF PARTICIPATING ATTORNEYS?

- ◆ The same, high quality service provided to paying clients.
- ◆ Status updates every three months.
- ◆ Communication with the PAI Program when issues arise with clients or cases.

Children's SSI Project

*Attorneys working to benefit
the lives of children and families.*



**South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.
Private Attorney
Involvement Program**

Centralized Intake Unit
(800) 496-4570

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LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



Children's Supplemental Security Income Project

WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S SSI PROJECT?

The Children's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Project is a Project in which volunteer attorneys assist low-income children to secure disability benefits.

HOW DOES SOCIAL SECURITY DECIDE IF A CHILD IS DISABLED?

The child must have a physical or mental condition(s) that very seriously limits his or her activities; and the condition(s) must have lasted, or be expected to last, at least one year or result in death.

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR SSI?

Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, a child from birth to age 18 may receive monthly payments based on disability if:

- He or she has an impairment or a combination of impairments that meets the definition of disability for children; and
- The parent(s) and the child are within the allowed resource and asset limits.



CAN I APPEAL A NEGATIVE DECISION MADE BY SOCIAL SECURITY?

If your child is denied SSI, you may appeal the decision. There are four levels of appeal:

- Reconsideration
- Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Hearing
- Hearing before Appeals Council
- Federal Court Review

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF DISABILITY FOR SSI PURPOSES?

- Severe asthma
- Mental retardation
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Neurological seizures