



Florida Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Project

The Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) projects work with SSA beneficiaries with disabilities on job placement, benefits planning, and career development. By working with a WIPA, SSA beneficiaries will be better equipped to make informed choices about work. Each WIPA is staffed with Community Work Incentive Coordinators (CWICs) to:

- Provide work incentives planning and assistance;
- Help beneficiaries and their families determine eligibility for Federal or State work incentives programs;
- Refer beneficiaries with disabilities to appropriate Employment Networks or State VR agencies based on individual needs and impairment types;
- Provide general information about potential employer-based or federally subsidized health benefits coverage available to beneficiaries once they enter the workforce; and
- Inform beneficiaries with disabilities of further protection and advocacy services available to them.

WIPAs are authorized to serve all SSA beneficiaries with disabilities, including transition-to-work aged youth, providing benefits planning and assistance services on request and as resources permit. A current list of WIPA Projects serving Florida is below. Updates to WIPA service providers in your area may be found at

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/oesp/providers.nsf/bystate>.

WIPAs

Brevard Achievement Center, Inc.

1845 Cogswell Street

Rockledge, FL 32995

888-310-6525 ext. 5207

<http://bacgrevard.com>

Serving the counties of – Brevard, Flagler, Indian River, Lake, Martin, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Putnam, Seminole, St. Lucie, and Volusia

Abilities, Inc. of Florida

2735 Whitney Road

Clearwater, FL 33758

727-538-7370 ext. 365

866-871-0255 Toll-Free

Contact: Julie Strong jstron@ourpeoplework.org

Serving the counties of – Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Levy, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, and Sumter

Center for Independent Living in Central Florida

720 N. Denning Drive

Winter Park, FL 32789

407-590-6336

407-623-1185 TTY

407-623-1390 Fax

<http://www.cilorlando.org/>

Contact: Debbie Baker dbaker@ciorlando.org

Serving the counties of – Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Miami-Dade, and Monroe

Goodwill Industries of North Florida, Inc.

4527 Lenox Avenue

Jacksonville, FL 32205

352-335-1311

877-346-3349 Toll-Free

<http://www.goodwilljax.org/>

Contacts: Carmen Sheppard csheppard@goodwilljax.org; Arnette Jacobs

ajacobs@goodwilljax.org

Serving the counties of – Alachua, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Columbia, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gilchrist, Gulf, Holmes, Lafayette, Liberty, Marion, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Taylor, union, Walton, and Washington

Independent Living Resource Center of NE Florida Opportunity Development, Inc.

2709 Art Museum Drive

Jacksonville, FL 32207

904-399-8484

888-427-4313 Toll-Free

904-398-6322 TDD

904-396-0859 Fax

www.cilj.com

Contact: Michael Stanley info@cilj.com

Serving the counties of – Baker, Clay, Duval, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Madison, Nassau, Wakulla, and St. John's

Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

2002-A Old Saint Augustine Rd

Tallahassee, FL 32301-4862

850-245-3270

850-245-3392 Fax

<http://rehabworks.org/>

Contact: Harold Thornton Harold.thornton@vr.fldoe.org

Florida Division of Education – Division of Blind Services
325 Gaines St
Turlington Bldg – Room 1114
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
850-245-0305
850-245-0363 Fax
<http://www.myflorida.com/dbs/>
Contact: Gayle Newton gaylenewton@dbs.fldoe.org

Protection and Advocacy Program

Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.
2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32301
850-488-9071
800-342-0823 Toll-Free
800-346-4127 TYY
850-488-8640 Fax
<http://www.advocacycenter.org/>