**Tips and Tricks to applying for SSI: ADULT CHILD with a disability.**

**SSI is a federally funded program, and the Federal "Age of Majority" is 18**

https://www.ssa.gov/ssi?

Two Programs within Social Security

*SSDI (Social Security Disability Program)

*Requires work experience (An adult child with no work experience will be sent a denial letter for not working enough quarters).

*SSI (Supplemental Security Income)

* No work experience needed; inability-to-work based

Call: 1.866.716.8299

*Schedule a phone interview and application for the month after your child's 18th birthday or asap after (this will be their eligibility date).

*Do not schedule before 18th birthday or parent resources will used in determination)

*Plan to be on hold for a while

*Keep the appointment, takes a long time to reschedule

**Eligibility**:

*Disability (substantial limitation in major life skills)

*Resources (2,000 limit while receiving SSI)

*If over resources you may establish a **Special Needs Trust or Enable Account** or spend down account.

**Getting ready for interview**:

*Complete information on **Adult Disability Report** or **Online Application**. Write it in your child's voice.

* Adult Disability Report is Not an application, just a planning tool

* When you see words like "you, your, or I" say your child's name

* All questions are answered with your child's information (ex: the child's bank account information or information regarding their children, not yours)

* Report DEFICITS in life skills, working, and learning (It is not an independent skill if prompts are required)

*Identify the Representative Payee: Usually parent or guardian that will assist in the spending of funds.

**Upon receipt of eligibility letter and Representative Payee designation**:

*Go to bank and open a Restricted Account: This account is designed for a person receiving financial aid to be spent for specific purposes

*SSI provides cash payment for food and shelter

*Plan for child to pay room and board/share of cost with SSI funds, 2/3 to ¾ of SSI can be paid as room and board. If a child does not pay parent/ guardian room and board, SSI funds will be reduced.

***Representative Payee** should review responsibilities at ssa.gov/payee/

*NE Medicaid Eligible

* Apply for Medicaid:

* Fill out an application online at iserve.nebraska.gov

* To apply) by phone or receive a paper application call

*(855)632.7633

*In Lincoln: (402)473.7000

*In Omaha: (402)595.1178

**Bank Account:**

*Restricted Account, wait to open account until you receive representative payee designation paperwork, or you receive your first check

**How to Figure Room & Board/Share of Cost:**

- All household expenses for food, rent, and utilities should be added together and divided by number of individuals living in household.

**OR**

- Find a Comparable Rent Online, look for places in your general area for the best comparison.

**Know Timelines and Rules:**

*Filing annual report

***Spending SSI funds appropriately** (keep receipts)

*Keep copies of all correspondence with SSI, date when information was sent

Contact PTI Nebraska with Questions!

1941 S. 42nd Street Suite 205

Omaha, NE 68105

402.346.0525 ext.7

800.284.8520