



Dear Redmond Campus Supported Employees,

You have heard the exciting news that all employees working under the Redmond Campus Supported Employment Program will receive an hourly wage increase. This will allow many employees to afford more of what they want or need in their lives.

We know that this may raise questions about how a wage increase will impact Social Security, Medical and other benefits. For many, there may be little or no impact to benefits. For others, it may be helpful to speak with a benefits planner to help think about strategies for maintaining essential benefits such as Medicaid or Medicare.

The organizational partners below are prepared to support you to understand how this announcement relates to your benefits. Depending upon which benefits you currently receive it is helpful to reach out to the resources which are most suited to assist you with your questions.

Only for individuals **not receiving services through the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)** partners you can reach out to for questions, including benefits planning services, include:

- **Division of Vocational Resources (DVR)** – If you have received DVR services in the past, please reach out to Patricia Emsley to inquire about benefit planning services to discuss how this wage change will impact your current benefits.

**Patricia Emsley**

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

[patricia.emsley@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:patricia.emsley@dshs.wa.gov)

- **Plan to Work** – If you are currently living in Washington State, not DDA or DVR eligible, and receive benefits from Social Security and would like to understand better how this wage change will impact your current benefits.

**Ticket-to-work hotline:** (866) 968-7842

If you are not able to reach someone via the Plan to work hotline, please email:

[plantowork@community-minded.org](mailto:plantowork@community-minded.org) and include “Redmond Campus Employee” in the subject line.

- **SHIBA** – SHIBA is the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors. If you are looking for additional information on how this wage change will impact the specifics of your Medicare or would like to talk to a trained Medicare specialists about plans in your county, please reach out to SHIBA.

**SHIBA** can be reached through their website or at (800)-562-6900

For additional resources and information regarding the impact of wages on SSA cash and/or medical benefits, please visit:

[Benefit U – Information for Individuals and Families.](#)

Thank you,



**BenefitU Support**

[www.benefitU.org](http://www.benefitU.org)

[support@benefitU.org](mailto:support@benefitU.org)