

What is the Representative Payee Grant Program of the Minnesota Disability Law Center?

Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) is a statewide program of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid which is the designated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in Minnesota.

As part of the Federal Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2018, MDLC completes onsite reviews of Representative Payees and Beneficiaries throughout Minnesota, working under the guidance of the Social Security Administration.

This document is funded through a Social Security grant agreement.

Although Social Security reviewed this document for accuracy, it does not constitute an official Social Security communication.

We published this brochure at U. S. taxpayer expense.



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MINNESOTA DISABILITY LAW CENTER

Representative Payee Grant Program



A Statewide Project of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Representative Payee Grant Program



What is a Representative Payee?

A Representative Payee is a person who helps a recipient of SSI or SSDI (the beneficiary) to manage their SSI/SSDI money. This happens when the beneficiary and/or the Social Security Administration (SSA) determine that the beneficiary can't manage these funds alone.

Who can be a Representative Payee?

The Representative Payee can be an individual, a family member or an organization.

Who chooses the Representative Payee?

You can ask to choose your Representative Payee or SSA can help you find one. SSA gives the final okay on who can be a Representative Payee.

Does the Representative Payee get paid?

Some Representative Payees can get paid a small amount.

What services does the Minnesota Disability Law Center offer under the Representative Payee Grant?

MDLC works with SSA to make sure that Representative Payees are doing their job correctly. We interview Representative Payees and look at financial records to ensure the Representative Payees are following best practices for their Beneficiaries. We also meet with Beneficiaries and ask them how their Representative Payees help them.

What kind of education or training does MDLC offer under this grant?

We provide educational information to Representative Payees and Beneficiaries about their roles and responsibilities. We also offer educational visits or presentations on the Representative Payee Program to interested programs, service providers or case managers.

What if MDLC finds a problem with how the Representative Payee is handling the Beneficiary's money?

We may recommend an action plan to fix the problem or refer the issue to SSA to investigate further.

Will MDLC help me get a new Representative Payee?

No, MDLC will refer Beneficiaries to call or visit SSA to change their Representative Payee. However, MDLC may be able to assist with other legal issues related to the person's disability.

What if I have a problem with my Representative Payee?

Contact MDLC at the numbers below to explain the issue and provide the Representative Payee's name. We will share the information with SSA who will decide if a review is needed.

CONTACTS

Learn more about the SSA Representative Payee Program

at www.ssa.gov/payee/
Or call Social Security 1.800.772.1213

Request assistance with a legal issue related to a disability throughout Minnesota

Call Minnesota Disability Law Center at 1.800.292.4150 or 612.334.5970

More information about the Representative Payee Grant

Contact Sarah Watts
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Visit www.lawhelpmn.org for MDLC's factsheets and resources.

This information is available in other formats upon request.