



# Free SSI/SSDI Employment Services with My Employment Options

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# About the Presenters



**KIMBERLY BOUNDS** is a Work At Home Employment Counselor and HR Operations. She has been with MEO for over 10 years. Kimberly enjoys helping individuals achieve personal success through finding employment.



**VICTOR VIEILLET** is the Business Development Specialist and has been with MEO since November 2018. He brings his previous experience in Marketing and Sales.

# Teresa Ellinger - CPWIC



## Teresa Ellinger

Teresa is our Social Security Benefits and Payments Manager and a Community Partner Work Incentives Coordinator. (CPWIC). She has been part of MEO for 17+ years. She plays a vital role at My Employment Options by helping clients better understand the Ticket to Work Program guidelines and submitting necessary documentation to Social Security. She knows the Ticket to Work Program inside and out.



# Special Guest - Presenter



**MARK BOOKER** is the Director of Sales and Marketing at GoodGames. He believes deeply in the game tools and their ability to make companies and organizations more productive and successful and in their ability to enact change in the world.



# Our Company



**My Employment Options** (MEO) is an authorized Employment Network in the Social Security **Ticket to Work Program**.

**We provide Free Work At Home and Onsite employment services for job seekers:**

- Who receive SSDI or SSI (non-retirement) benefits
- Who want to try working again
- Ages 18-64
- Across 48 contiguous states and Washington, D.C.



# Today's Agenda

- **Who is My Employment Options? (MEO)**
- **What Do We Do For Job Seekers on SSDI/SSI?**
- **Why Choose Us As Your Employment Network?**
- **Free Services That We Provide**
- **Work At Home & Onsite Job Examples**
- **Path to Financial Independence**

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# WORKING FROM HOME

## Who is My Employment Options?

# MEO at a Glance

- Specialize in assisting SSI/SSDI Beneficiaries
  - Work from Home Employment
  - Community Employment
- Personal Vocational Counselor Assignments
  - Assigned to an individual job counselor
  - Individual assessment of employment goals
- Benefits Counseling Sessions
- Support throughout the entire Ticket to Work Program



# Specialized Screening

## Two Step Screening Process

1. Initial screening to review your work history, verify qualifications and employment goals
2. 2nd Screening reviews the Ticket to Work Program and Client/Counselor responsibilities

We need to ensure that we are able to help you achieve your employment and financial goals!

# Personal Vocational Counselor

## Vocational Counselor Assignment

Assigned to Counselor that best suits client goals

- Counselors are assigned to a client based on their individual needs and goals

## One-on-One Job Counseling

- Job Search
- Resume Writing/Revisions
- Interview Coaching
- Retention Support



# GoodGames Question #1

## Fears and Concerns

What are some questions and/or concerns about returning to work?

# Benefits Counselor

- Teresa Ellinger-  
Certified Partner Work Incentive Coordinator (CPWIC)
- Monitors Progression Through Ticket To Work Program
  - Tracks Trial Work Period
  - Introduces Phase 2 of Ticket to Work
- Guidance with Medicare and Medicaid
- Financial Goals Established
- Assistance with SSA Letters/Forms

# Suzanne's Benefits Reinstatement

Suzanne was a Ticket to Work Participant who worked many years successfully

Disability caused her to be unable to work

Teresa helped get Suzanne benefits back

She earned work credits to increase her SSDI cash benefits

She received a new ticket

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# Counselors Who Care & Relate

- 15 of our staff have participated in the Ticket to Work Program
- Develop strong relationships with our knowledge and our personal experience
- Our counselors provide relevant advisement and guidance of the program
- We Practice the Personal Touch
- We Want You To Be Successful!!



# Resume

## Counselors Assist With Resume Writing

- Resume Revisions
- Create New Modern Resumes
  - Develop resumes that score high within ATS (Automated Tracking Systems)
- Adjusting Resumes based on the job description and requirements (review)
- Cover letter assistance



# Retention Support

## Ongoing Counselor Relationship

- Guide Our Clients Through Duration of Program
- Accommodation Suggestions
- Help Achieve/Maintain and Meet Financial Goal
- Continuing Career Advancement
- Referral for Help With Benefit Questions
- Moral Support



# GoodGames Question #2

What is the growth percentage in remote/hybrid positions between 2021-2024?

# Growth Within Remote Jobs

- Work at Home companies are expanding and creating new types of opportunities!
  - Accounting
  - IT
  - Marketing
  - Healthcare
  - Insurance
  - Analytics
- Many employers are changing their business model
- Cost effective to hire remote employees

**An AT&T study found the hybrid work model is expected to grow from 42% in 2021 to 81% in 2024.**



# WORKING FROM HOME

## Work From Home Requirements

# Home Office Setup

- Quiet, Private Workplace is Mandatory
  - Office with a locked door
  - No background noise
- PC/Laptop (No Chromebook/Tablets)
- All Equipment Must Be Hard Wired (including internet)
- Landline or VOIP
- Comfortable Working Environment
  - Pictures, Plants, Ergonomic Equipment

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# Minimum Computer Skills Required

- Typing Speed
  - Average of 35 Words per Minute (depending on position)
- Knowledgeable With Basic Computer Skills
  - Cut, paste, and copy
  - Microsoft Office Suite
  - Navigate multiple browser tabs
  - Internet Research
- Familiar With Technical Terminology
  - Keyboard shortcuts

# Minimum Strengths & Skills

- Excellent Customer Service
- Empathy and Active Listener
- Friendly & Professional Communication
- Problem-Solving Skills
- Patience
- Independent
- Time Management Abilities



# Work From Home Partners

MEO has multiple Work from Home and Community employer partnerships!

- Gets you to the head of the line
- Able to receive fast personalized feedback/support from recruiters
- First notification of new job postings
- Faster results with the hiring process

# GoodGames Question #3

On average, how much more could our clients earn by returning to work?



# Work At Home Jobs & Industries

- **What Type Of Work Is Available?**
  - Customer Service Representative
  - Technical Support
  - Sales
  - Accounting
  - Medical/Insurance
  
- **What Type Of Industries?**
  - IT
  - Retail
  - Healthcare
  - Financial
  - Travel

# Advancement Opportunities

## Advancement Is Possible With Experience and/or Education

- Upward mobility is possible...
- Start in an entry level position to build experience
- Management level positions require remote experience
- Examples:  
Team Lead, High Level IT, Marketing, Project Manager

# Onboarding Process

- Background Checks
- Credit Checks
- Drug Testing May Be Required
- New Hire Paperwork



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# Working Rewards Program

## We Reward Our Clients For Their Hard Work!

- Clients can earn raffle tickets as they send in paystubs!
- Allows clients to 'Save Up' Monthly Pay Stub Contest raffle tickets and cash them in for big prizes!
- Different level of prizes depending on program level!

## Reward Prizes Can Include:

- Gift Cards - Up to \$250.00 (Amazon, WalMart, Paypal)
- Laptop
- iPad

# You Can Do This!!

- Remember - Returning to work takes commitment, patience and perseverance!
- The Ticket to Work Program changes lives!
- MEO has the knowledge, support, and all the encouragement in the world to give you!
- Your Success is our SUCCESS!



# Success Stories - Update

- **We had over 414 Clients start jobs in 2023**
- **215 clients have graduated from our program.**
  - **Became Completely Self-Sufficient!**

**Lisa Seeley - SSA Ticket to Work Success Story**

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/lisa-success-story>

**Lori Adler - Communications Manager - Story**

<https://choosework.ssa.gov/library/lori-success-story>

# Questions and Answers

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**MEO WEBINAR:** [Job Application Tips](#). **June 13th** – Registration Open!



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We offer free employment services for qualified SSDI/SSI candidates in 48 states and Washington D.C. We help in all states **Except** Alaska and Hawaii. We offer a complete employment services package to help you find a job that best suits your skills and needs.

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Questions? Email

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**Ticket To Work Website: <https://choosework.ssa.gov/>**