



The Family Resource Network

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NJRA Awards NJWINS for Removing Barriers to Employment for Those with Disabilities

The New Jersey Rehabilitation Association will honor NJWINS, a Social Security Administration's Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program run by The Family Resource Network, with The Community Focused Excellence in Service Award at the 2011 NJRA Annual Meeting on Friday, December 2nd.

The NJRA judges each nominated organization based on the following criteria: they exemplify a commitment to the Vocational Rehabilitation field, demonstrate excellence in support and advocacy in the Rehabilitation field, and produce positive results in the community that improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. The NJWINS program provides Social Security Work Incentives planning services to New Jersey's SSI and SSDI beneficiaries, who are considering working, returning to work, continuing work, or augmenting work. Such advisement often removes fear of losing benefits, a fear which acts as a barrier to work and work retention efforts.

President of the NJRA, Joni Dolce recognizes, "NJWINS is an important component to our state's commitment and mission to create a recovery oriented system."

NJWINS Community Work Incentive Coordinators are available to meet with individuals, families, and providers to provide clear advisement on the application of available

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Social Security Work Incentives, which allow beneficiaries to control the loss of SSI, SSDI, Medicaid, and Medicare benefits for as long as they are needed while transitioning to work and self sufficiency. NJWINS also helps establish a strong relationship between beneficiaries and their SSA local offices, further ensuring that all work incentives are applied accurately and benefits are retained for as long as they are needed.

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The Family Resource Network (FRN) is a comprehensive, family-focused, organization designed to meet the growing need for community based programs and services to this rising population. FRN's affiliated organizations are Autism Family Services of NJ, Caregivers of NJ, Epilepsy Foundation of NJ and the Family Support Center of NJ. Please visit www.familyresourcenetwork.org for more information.