

Success Stories: Floyd



Floyd's therapist gave him advice and support to help him to return to work after living through mental health challenges that prevented him from working. His therapist convinced him to apply for SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance), Medicare, and Medical Assistance. Floyd later took the training to become a CPS (Certified Peer Specialist). His therapist helped him get a job at the agency where he was being treated. After he started working, Floyd still collected SSDI while also eligible for MAWD (Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities).



"I certainly felt better about myself working, because I felt that I wasn't only living off of the government," says Floyd. "One of the biggest challenges I faced was believing in myself again and I still struggle with that today."

Since SSDI was Floyd's major source of income, it was hard balancing how much he could earn and not decrease his SSDI. Even when Floyd calculated the hours he could work and still receive SSDI the way SSA (Social Security Administration) explained it to him, he almost got to a point where he would lose his SSDI. He relied on help from his supervisor and the Social Security office to achieve the correct balance of hours. He advises people to work closely with a CPS, a counselor, and the SSA office for help with benefits.

Floyd feels grateful that his therapist was so helpful in his recovery. Floyd's definition of recovery is being able to function in everyday life without feeling as if he has no control. He realizes this is a constant battle.

Floyd is confident, happy, balanced, awake, and alive, and ready for anything that may come his way. His personal medicine (what he does to be well) includes a lot of praying and relying on peers. And his dream for the future is to live a good, happy life with his wife and family and helping other people do the same.