

ADVOCACY

People First of Toledo Monthly Newsletter



Disability Benefits to Increase

By Quinn Thomas

Starting in January of 2023, SSI and SSDI maximum benefit amounts will increase. This happens every year because of the Cost of Living Adjustment, or COLA. The COLA is meant to keep benefits at the same value no matter what the rate of inflation is. This year, benefits will increase by 8.7%. This is the biggest increase in over 40 years, since 1981. Inflation has been high lately, so the percent of benefits increase will also be high to match it. This way people can afford the same things in 2023 that they could afford in 2022.

“A COLA of 8.7% is extremely rare and would be the highest ever received by most Social

UPCOMING EVENTS

NIGHT TO SHINE

Registration for prom-goers and for volunteers is now open! The event itself is February 10th.

ADULT AUTISM GAME GROUP

Every Friday at 7:30 in the Toledo Game Room. The 2nd will be tabletop roleplaying, the 9th will be board games.

SUPER SATURDAY DANCE

December 10 from 7:00-9:00, Five Lakes Church gymnasium. For DD individuals and caregivers.

HOLIDAY PARTY

December 20, 5:00-7:00, 1115 Larc Lane. \$20 limit gift exchange. Bring a store bought dessert. In joint with SALUTE.

Security beneficiaries alive today," said Mary Johnson, Social Security and Medicare policy analyst at The Senior Citizens League.

It can't be said how much this increase would mean for every individual. On average, it will be about \$119 more. In 2022, the average unmarried SSDI beneficiary got \$1364 per month. In 2023, someone receiving that amount would now be getting \$1483 instead.

That's for SSDI. SSI is increasing too. Benefits will go from a maximum of \$841 for a single person to \$914, and from \$1261 for a married disabled couple up to \$1371 a month in 2023.

New Income Limits

Since inflation has made the cost of living go up, it has also made the cost of paying workers go up. So, most people are earning more money now than they



were earlier. Because of that, the income limits for disability benefits have been raised. Now you can make more money without losing your benefits-- about the same amount that you could make last year, in terms of spending power.

In 2022, the monthly income cap was \$1350. In 2023, the cap will be \$1470. This cap changes if the beneficiary is blind. The monthly blind income cap in 2022 was \$2260. This year, it will increase by \$200 to be \$2460 monthly.



**People First
of
Toledo**

OUR NEXT MEETING

Our last meeting for 2022 will be December 15th, from 6:00-7:30 pm at the Ability Center in the Openlander Room. This is a town hall meeting. Anyone can come. We are going to talk about what People First has done as a group this year and what we want to do next year. We'll plan our meetings, events, and activities for 2023 and decide how we want to move forward.