



SSI/SSDI OUTREACH, ACCESS, AND RECOVERY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (SOAR)

What is SOAR?

SOAR seeks to end homelessness through increased access to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) income supports. SSI/SSDI are disability income benefits that also provide Medicaid and/or Medicare insurance. The application for these benefits are complicated and nationally only 28% of those applications are initially approved, yet accessing these benefits is an important first step on the road towards recovery. Case managers trained in the SOAR process submit a complete and quality application that are approved quickly.

Who is eligible?

Adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical impairment, and /or a co-occurring substance use disorder.

Where are SOAR providers located?

SOAR trained providers can be found in many communities across the state. For the most current list of providers or if you are interested in becoming a SOAR provider contact:

Jami Hansen, Program
Manager
Email:

Jami.Hansen@mt.gov

What services are available? Phone: 406-444-3055

- Appointed representative for the purpose of applying for SSI/SSDI. Representation includes “standing in” for the applicant, responding to questions, receiving copies of all mail sent to the applicant, and communicating back and forth with SSA and DDS.
- Complete the applications for both SSI and SSDI.
- Collect medical records from providers who have treated the applicant over the last two years.
- Complete a psychosocial assessment, a functional impairment assessment, and a substance use worksheet.
- Write a comprehensive medical summary report that includes psychosocial, treatment, and functional information that is co-signed, if at all possible, by a physician or psychologist who has seen the individual.
- Conduct ongoing outreach and engagement with the individual to stay connected throughout the process and to work with the individual to obtain other needed services and treatment such as housing, physical and mental health care, other support services, food, and clothing.