

**12/13/04**

**My name is Melody. Three years ago my life was turned upside down after an injury at work. I was forty- nine and had worked since high school. After almost thirty years at the same job I thought I was protected well enough in case of illness. While waiting for Social Security to approve my disability I went through many medical procedures and all of my funds. Soon I had no money of my own and after being unable to return to work I lost my benefits one by one. I became more and more depressed and hopeless. One night when I was at my worst an advocate from Compassion In Action – USA returned my call and talked to me until I felt that I just might win approval.**

**That was not all. She took the time to help me do the necessary things to speed my appeals process. She called me often. Without my advocate I would still be waiting for a hearing. Instead I won an on the record decision and am now receiving my benefits.**

**The world needs more people like those at Compassion In Action - USA. People living in constant pain need help as it is without having to fight alone. I thank God for Barbara's organization and pray that she receives all the help she needs.**