

My name is Vickie, I have cirrhosis of the liver and Epstein Barr. I worked until I just couldn't anymore. I belong to several hepatitis c support groups, and run one for Southern California. I have heard so many horror stories of people who are sick and have to fight Social Security for years to get disability. I had a friend who's son had diabetes, and was in very poor health from it. They had battled with Social Security for several years, and they kept denying him. He died without ever being approved. Quitting work was something I didn't really want to do, I actually enjoyed my job. I got to the point where I couldn't function at it anymore. Liver disease causes brain fog and confusion. I was transposing numbers, getting patients charts mixed up, etc. I had to go on disability, I had no choice. I really dreaded what I was in for. It's hard enough just being sick, without having to fight the system to get help. In doing searches on the internet for assistance for people on my Hepatitis C support group I found Compassion In Action - USA and sent them an E-mail. Barbara E-mailed me right back. She came to my apartment and helped me get together everything I would need for SSD. She went with me for my appointment in April. She and her husband were both sick, he drove her out here. I was approved in two months just as my state disability was running out. She checks up on me to see how I'm doing. I know I wouldn't have been able to do this by myself. I thank you so much Barbara, you are a Godsend!

**Sincerely,
Vickie**