

SOAR Dialogue Call May 2026

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NC COALITION to
HOMELESSNESS end

New SOAR Provider Support

Welcome New SOAR Providers!!!

- Find a local community workgroup to join for peer to peer support
 - Local Leads Intro
- Please ensure you have completed the SOAR quiz, exam and assessment - this must be completed before you can begin processing SOAR applications
- If you are interested in becoming SOAR Certified or would like to know more about SOAR Certification, please email me:
natasha.posey@ncceh.org

SSA Update

Fifth Third Bank is the new financial agent for the SSA Direct Express Program (previously was Comerica)

- Begins in May
- Transition happening over the summer
- Debit cards will be mailed out in advance



SOAR Updates

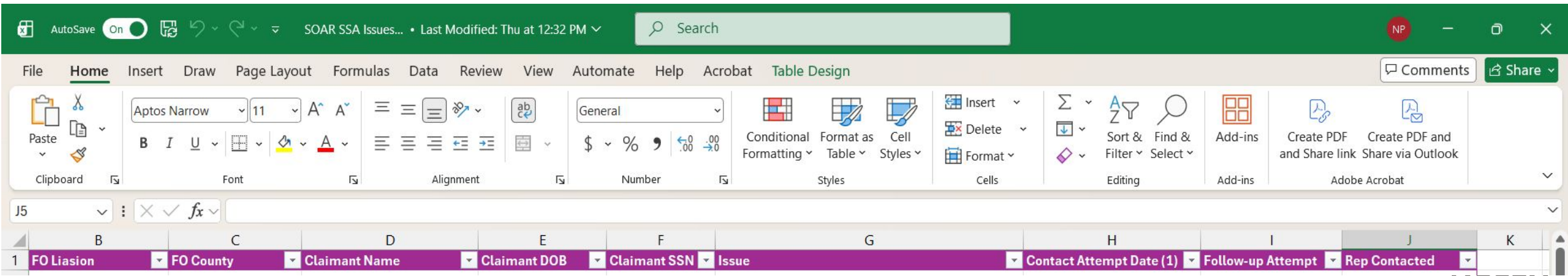
SOAR Plus! Training dates are Thursday, June 4th and Friday, June 5th

- Registration is open now - link on our website

Outcome Reporting Tool is nearing completion!!!

- S.O.R.T. Kickoff is happening now! A training guide will be sent to SOAR Providers soon and we will discuss the system at June's SOAR Dialogue

SOAR SSA Issues Spreadsheet Example:



Qualifying for Social Security Disability Benefits with End-Stage Renal Disease

Blue Book Medical Listings

The SSA evaluates ESRD under:

- **Section 6.00 – Genitourinary Disorders**

Applicants may qualify if they have:

- Chronic kidney disease requiring:
 - Hemodialysis, or
 - Peritoneal dialysis lasting at least 12 months
- A kidney transplant
- Reduced kidney function shown through:
 - Abnormal lab tests
 - Low eGFR
 - Elevated creatinine levels

Additional Complications That Support Approval

The SSA also considers:

- Severe bone disease (renal osteodystrophy)
- Neuropathy and nerve damage
- Fluid overload and swelling
- Severe weight loss/anorexia
- Repeated hospitalizations
- Cardiovascular complications

Qualifying Through Residual Functional Capacity (RFC)

Even if a person does not meet a Blue Book listing, they may still qualify if ESRD prevents them from working.

The SSA evaluates:

- Physical limitations
- Work history
- Education level
- Ability to perform sedentary or physical work

Individuals with physically demanding job histories may have a greater chance of approval.

Important Medical Evidence Needed

Applicants should provide:

- Blood tests
- eGFR results
- Urine tests
- Kidney biopsy results
- Blood pressure records
- Dialysis treatment reports
- Medication lists
- Hospitalization records
- Physician statements describing:
 - Severity of ESRD
 - Functional limitations

How to Apply

Applicants can:

- Apply online for SSDI
- Apply in person at an SSA office
- SSI applications must be completed in person

Tips for a Strong Application

- Include complete medical records
- Double-check applications for errors
- Notify SSA of:
 - New hospitalizations
 - Medication changes
 - Additional testing

Because ESRD is a severe condition, approval chances are generally higher when proper documentation is included.

Key Takeaways

- ESRD is a serious, irreversible condition that can qualify for Social Security disability benefits.
- Dialysis and transplant requirements often significantly limit the ability to work.
- Strong medical evidence is essential for approval.
- Both Blue Book listings and RFC evaluations may qualify an applicant for benefits.

Time for Q&A, Reflections, Advice

The floor is open for you all to share!

Our next meeting will be held June 16th at 10 am

Meeting Ideas? Let me know!



Contact NCCEH

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Contact us re: SOAR

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