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October 31, 2022

Dear Parents/Family Members/Guardians:

I hope this message finds you healthy and safe.

On October 13, 2022, the Social Security Administration announced that Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 8.7 percent in 2023.

Many of you are aware of this increase but we felt it was important to communicate how this affects UCP Seguin as the representative payee for the participants in our 24-hour CILA program.

This increase in social security payments does not include an increase in your loved ones monthly personal allowance of \$60.00. This amount will remain the same. In addition, this social security increase does not mean that UCPSEGUIN receives more money to care for your loved one. THEN WHO BENEFITS FROM THIS INCREASE? ANSWER: The State of Illinois.

As social security payments increase, the State reduces its payments supporting your loved one by that same amount, this is the offset. These funding rules have been in place for many years. We know that this may seem unfair since expenses to purchase personal items and costs to operate our programs are rising significantly this year.

The only way we secure more funding is by working with the Governor and our State of Illinois elected officials and also by soliciting grants and donations.

As always, thank you for your support and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at <u>sgutierrez@seguin.org</u>.

Sincerely,

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Sammy Gutierrez Chief Program Officer











