

INNER
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After being diagnosed with breast cancer, Ms. Hamilton applied for Social Security Disability Insurance. When the Social Security Administration denied her claim on the basis that her disability from cancer and from the side effects of treatment was unlikely to last for 12 months, Ms. Hamilton approached Inner City Law Center for help.

ICLC agreed to help her appeal the denial. While investigating the case, ICLC quickly became aware that the breast cancer treatment was not the only basis for SSDI benefits. Ms. Hamilton also had a history of depression and PTSD related to her service in the Navy. An Administrative Law Judge agreed with ICLC that Ms. Hamilton was entitled to SSDI benefits based both on her breast cancer treatment and on her depression. The judge granted her the benefits for which she had applied two years previously, resulting in a retroactive award of \$18,000 and an additional \$1,000 a month until she is able to work. Ms. Hamilton has also now enrolled in treatment programs for veterans at the VA.