

## Melanie Honsbruch BIO:

Melanie entered the world of benefits counseling when she first earned her Benefits Counseling Certification in 2003. She has since worked to provide Colorado communities, persons with disabilities and their families' information around benefits and working. This has ranged from eligibility for Social Security administered disability benefits (SSDI and SSI), how to start and navigate the application process for these benefits, to how work and other life decisions effect a person's individual benefit situation once eligible.

Melanie brought this knowledge to the Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in 2012 to improve and enhance benefits counseling services within the agency. Melanie then transitioned to the Colorado Office of Employment First to take this same effort both within DVR and outside to all Coloradans with disabilities and their support systems.

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