

The article starts off by describing the mental state of a 53-year-old man named Mr. P that lived in a mental health clinic in Los Angeles for three years. Mr. P experienced abuse as a child and assault in his later years. Both of these factors more than likely contributed to his deteriorating mental status and growing dependency on drugs. He also had problems in social situations and avoided staying at crowded shelters by sleeping outdoors instead. He qualified for many services that would help with his mental state. For instance, a psychiatrist that would find him a medication regimen to counter his symptoms and a case manager who would get him a bed at a transitional sober-living center. Mr. P was making progress and even joined a church where he was starting stable relationships. However, Mr. P still had trouble finding work so he applied for public housing and Supplemental Security Income. When he found out that his application for Supplemental Security Income was rejected, presumably because he was getting better, Mr. P chose to worsen his overall condition and make it seem like he wasn't doing better so he'd be eligible for the SSI. The rules and regulations behind what makes someone eligible for financial aid like SSI aren't necessarily hard to work with but it has to be done correctly. Basically Mr. P and the team he had working with him had to make it known that his current mental status classified him as someone that did in fact have a disability that prevented him from being able to get into the workforce and naturally conduct himself as others would. It had to be made clear that his mental condition was a disability and not just a side effect from drug use and that he needed financial assistance to attain shelter, food, etc. In the end his case manager not only helped with his reapplication but also went with him to his interview and Mr. P did end up getting SSI.