

# NASI SOCIAL SECURITY ACADEMY FOR INTERNS

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# Why is Social Security Relevant to Young People?

- Social Security is not just a retirement program
- Over five million people receiving Social Security are under 40 years old
- Social Security Administration, Office of the Chief Actuary projects that among people age 20
  - 9% of men and 6% of women will die before retirement
  - 30% of men and 25% of women will become disabled before retirement

# Why is Social Security Relevant to Young People?

Insurance value of Social Security to young workers and their families is:

- The equivalent of almost \$415,000 in disability insurance for a 30-year old worker with a spouse and two young children, earning \$25,000 to \$30,000
- About \$433,000 in survivors benefits for the family of the same worker

# Importance of Social Security in the Current Economy

The economic downturn has impacted:

- The ability of many workers to save
- The ability of employers to provide pension coverage
- The level of pension savings remaining in 401(k) and IRA accounts and the amount of new contributions made by employers and employees

Social Security remains a stable source of insurance income

# Need to Strengthen Social Security

1. Restore long-term solvency
2. Improve coverage and benefit adequacy

# How Can Young People Impact the Future of Social Security?

- Educate policy makers
- Intergenerational coalition building