

UWIN Work Group Minutes

Work Group: Work Incentives

Meeting Date: February 14, 2003

Facilitator: Drew Hyde and Corliss Neuber

Minute Recorder: Tamara Keene

Attendees: Cathy Chambless, Margot Dana, Anita Hall, Drew Hyde, Esther Medina, Corliss Neuber, Phyllis Sharples, Jolene Wyler and Bill Young

Next Meeting Date and Location

April 15, 2003 from 10:00am – 12:00pm at the Judy Buffmire Building in room #300

Action Item Updates from Past Meetings

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Who</i>
Contact Steve Maas from Department of Workforce Services to coordinate the distribution of the Employment DVD and the DWS Employer's Toolkit	Currently working with Steve	Dianne Russell
Follow up and arrange meeting for Medicaid Work Incentive Advocacy: Connecting LCPD	With successful advocacy, budget was restored to \$400,000 from \$100,000.	Everyone

Topic and Summary of Discussion

BPA&O Sub Group Report

Currently looking at training 25 Benefit Specialists

Some problems were identified:

- 1- Agency Buy-In
- 2- Payment for services

Hoping to present a model for how Benefit Specialists can be utilized even in the face of statewide budget cuts.

Going to ask agencies to allow 1 employee to be trained and use the database while committing some of that same employee's time to the BPA&O program.

IOTI Training has been moved back until June 2003

Work Incentive Sub Group Report

Legislature restored Medicaid Buy-In a budget increase to \$400,000, from a previous budget of \$100,000.

Spend-down training will be held in March

- Department of Workforce Services at this time has not requested any training through Medicaid.

What communication is needed/available for training information?

- 1- Reminders to DWS
- 2- Could UWIN Coalition draft a letter suggesting a training for policy information
- 3- Set up trainings with Anita Hall on Medicaid Work Incentives, these are available to all agencies by contacting Carolyn Evans

Ticket to Work Sub Group Report

Planning a meeting with Employment Networks so they will be better prepared for roll out of Tickets

Hosting a focus group to help potential Employment Networks for the big conference in May with Maximus

Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) is working on tracking ticket participants

Topic and Summary of Discussion

Attend quality assurance from Bureau of Eligibility Services (BES) quarterly meeting where DWS trainers are in regular attendance
-plan for July meeting participation

Training Sub Group

Utah Association for Persons in Supported Employment (UAPSE) in conjunction with Salt Lake Community College will be holding 6 short classes over the next 6 months discussing Work Incentives for People with Disabilities in Utah.

Mandee Buckley and Nonie Lancaster are currently working with Judith Holt and Jeff Sheen to create a consumer based training discussing topics like “why work”.

Training group hopes to set up a transition meeting to help raise awareness levels

Employment Support Work Group

Still moving forward

Currently have two participants

Discuss what may be holding program back from additional clients:

- 1- Awareness of program
- 2- Understanding of what Employment Related Personal Assistance Services (EPAS) are

Employer Education Work Group

Finalizing content of Employer CD

- Hoping that the governor will be able to do an intro segment to the CD

Hosting Employer focus groups that will be employer based to get information about their interests and concerns with disability in the work place

Topic and Summary of Discussion

Role of Work Incentives Work Group

Consider doing a written publication to explain the milestones that have been reached or a newsletter

Very important to keep the community involved in the on goings of the project

- 1-Further this by hosting public meetings
- 2-Announce via newspaper
- 3-Have 2 “annual” types of meetings each year---next for June/July time frame

Review/refresh membership of this work group

Use the UAPSE trainings as a “prep” or foundation to come into the UWIN Information pool

2 for 1 SSA Demonstration Project

The Social Security Administration (SSA) is trying to find a way to restructure its procedure system

- 1- Allen Jensen’s group is pulling together a proposal to present to the SSA board, in regards to the 2 for 1 demo project, for reducing benefits over a time span rather than using the current cut-off method.
- 2- 300-400 people would be participants
- 3- This demonstration project would probably be skewed towards Mental Health consumers
- 4- Demo would be held for a 5 year period, money would be included for participating states, but the amount is unclear at this time
- 5- SSA is at a point where they have to do something so this is a great window of opportunity for changes
- 6- If we could be involved it would be a national note of prestige for our state

Action Steps

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Target Date</i>
Draft a letter informing agencies and other public entities of how to get trainings and what the trainings are about.	Grant Oversight Group (Cathy Chambless)	April 25, 2003
Arrange for a UWIN Medicaid training with Anita Hall	Mandee Buckley	March 3, 2003

Recommendations for GOE Group

Draft a letter to offer UWIN Trainings and send to corresponding agency administrations