

# UWIN Work Group Minutes

## Work Group: Work Incentives

Meeting Date: November 7, 2002

Facilitator: Drew Hyde

Minute Recorder: Tamara Keene

Attendees: Cathy Chambless, Margot Dana, Drew Hyde, Tamara Keene, Suzette Martellaro, Gerald Smith, Jolene Wyler, Anita Hall, and Hank Liese

### Next Meeting Date and Location

UWIN Annual Coalition Meeting, November 10, 2002 at DSBVI (250 N 1950 W) in the multi purpose room from 9:00am-4:00pm  
Work Incentive Workgroup Meeting to be rescheduled following the annual meeting.

### Action Item Updates from Past Meetings

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Who</i>
Identify upcoming conferences where it may be useful to have a UWIN Presentation.	Autism Conference is held annually in October APERS (Rules for Special Education) is held on March 31, 2003. Judith and Jeff have sent in a proposal for this national conference.	All WI workgroup members
Find useful web links that are useful to people who will be accessing work incentives.	Still collecting this information for the re-design of the UWIN web site. Continue to send links to Mande at <a href="mailto:MBUCKLEY@utah.gov">MBUCKLEY@utah.gov</a>	All WI workgroup members

### Discussions for Future Meetings

## Topic and Summary of Discussion

### **National Conference Update (Cathy Chambless)**

SSA (Social Security Administration) will be putting out the opportunity for state with SSDI to study the potential to have benefits decrease \$1 for every \$2 earned. (2 to 1 concept)

Certain states will be given money to trial this concept, probably for a term of 5 years, so data can be collected on the outcomes.

- 1- We should review the SSDI Work Incentives policy demonstration and consider how to integrate and use it in Utah.
- 2- Would need to be supported by consumers
- 3- Consider doing a feasibility study to see if Utah should push for consideration

### **UWIN Updates**

#### Training

- 1- Held training in Provo for Wasatch House
- 2- 40 consumers attended
- 3- Evaluated usefulness of the training with post questions
- 4- 90% of the individuals at the training wanted to work
- 5- It's important to help people understand what reasonable work expectations are and how to have a good work experience.

#### Community Trainings

- 1- Currently in the process of coming up with a system to organize a ½ day to a day and a half function for agencies, providers, and consumers within a community.
- 2- First community to target will be Vernal in January.

#### Annual UWIN Meeting

- 1- Get updates from all groups
- 2- Find new consumers and providers to participate in the workgroups

## Topic and Summary of Discussion

### Outreach

- 1- Vanguard Media is working with UWIN and the Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities to produce a disseminate the DVD
  - a. The Targets of the DVD will be primarily Employers and potential Employees with disabilities and their support groups.
  - b. Shooting for a spring release
- 2- DWS (Department of Workforce Services) would like to view the DVD
  - a. Steve Maas is the contact person for DWS to get permission to distribute the DVD in the Employer Toolkit
  - b. Steve can also get a person from DWS to assist with input concerning the DVD

### Medicaid Buy-In

- 1- Evaluation
  - a. A small focus group will be set up using people who are already on the Medicaid Buy-In program to generate questions for the survey.
    - i. Find out why they were interested in the program
    - ii. Find out how they were effected with the legislative changes this past year
    - iii. Is there confusion that the Premium switched to the Spend Down?
    - iv. Gather personal stories
    - v. Invite people to testify at the next legislative session
  - b. Plan on telephoning a sample of those who are involved in the Medicaid Buy-In currently
  - c. Helping to get quantitative information
  - d. 150 person is the target sample size
- 3- LCPD (Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities) really wants to be reassured that we have a strong network of support for Advocacy and Information
  - a. Need to find new legislator who will support the Work Incentives

### Ticket to Work

- 1- Kind of in "stand by" mode.
- 2- Expect things to get very busy in February before the pending issues come to a head.
- 3- Implementation concepts need to be made more concrete

## Topic and Summary of Discussion

### PABBS

- 1- New liaison with the Disability Law Center

### EPAS (Employment Related Personal Assistant Services)

- 1- One person is very close to getting service. They are waiting for his premium payment for the Medicaid Buy-In
- 2- Another person qualifies but is trying to secure a job
- 3- One person is waiting to become Medicaid eligible
- 4- Two others are waiting to be assessed for amount of service needed
- 5- Still trying to get the word out about this program
  - a. Training
  - b. Benefits Planners

### BPA&O (Benefit Planning Assistance and Outreach)

#### Data Base

- 1- Trying to gather information that will be useful for evaluation
- 2- Looking to solidifying the type of information gathered
- 3- Building data base is still in progress

April-June 2002 69 people were served; most referrals were gathered from vocational rehabilitation

54 new people were served this past quarter (July-Sept 2002)

#### Survey

- 1- 40% response/return rate
- 2- Almost finalized, waiting for approval from Bill Young, and Kathy Daley
- 3- Had pretty good representation statewide
- 4- Some thought that many organizations think that the focus of benefits planning is helping people keep their benefits and teaching them how to maintain them (old model), rather than helping them to wean away from services through work improvements.
- 5- Should have a final report from the survey before the end of the year.

## Action Steps

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Target Date</i>
Contact Steve Maas from Department of Workforce Services to coordinate the distribution of the Employment DVD and the DWS Employer's Toolkit	Hank Liese Cathy Chambless	Before year's end
Follow up and arrange meeting for Medicaid Work Incentive Advocacy: Connecting LCPD	Hank Liese Cathy Chambless Mandee Buckley	Before year's end
Follow up with SSDI Meeting and get on agenda for December (or next month that is held). Review SSDI and Work Incentives policy demonstration proposal. Consider how to integrate and use it to Utah's best advantage. Consider a feasibility study (Hank).	Hank Liese Cathy Chambless Drew Hyde Others as interested	For next meeting