

# UWIN Work Group Minutes

## Work Group : Work Incentives

Meeting Date: March 12, 2002

Facilitator: Corliss Neuber

Minute Recorder: Ruth Petter

Attendees: Deborah Bowman, Drew Hyde, Ruth Petter, Gerald Smith, Dan Crandall, Jolene Wyler, Margot Dana, Tom Dubach, Nonie Lancaster, Mandee Buckley, Esther Medina, Judith Holt, Lynne MacLeod, Susan Loving, Noreen Brown, Matt Knotts, Linda Asa, Bill Young, Corliss Neuber, Rick Cobia

### Next Meeting Date and Location

Tuesday, April 23, 2002, Judy Ann Buffmire Bldg. Room 300 South, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

### Action Item Updates from Past Meetings

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Who</i>
Benefits Planning and outreach retreat list. Will be part of BPAO sub-group.	Ongoing	BPAO Sub-group
Representative for Work incentives coordinating Counsel for People with Disabilities.	Dropped at present time	
Anecdotes concerning Social Security overpayments.	Dropped at present time	
Acronyms	Completed for now Note changes – add meanings	Mandee & Nonie
Legislature monitoring.	Ongoing	Linda & group

### Discussions for Future Meetings

## Topic and Summary of Discussion

**Welcome & Introductions** Cathy welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Corliss Neuber as the new Co-facilitator for the group. Corey Rowley and Paul Day have both excused themselves as facilitator. The group will have another co-facilitator soon. Introductions were made all around and Corliss started the meeting.

### **Minutes from last meeting**

A typo has been discovered on pages 1 & 5 (antic dotes) is spelled anecdotes.

Minutes were approved as written.

### **Legislative update on the Medicaid Work Incentives program.** – Linda Asa

There are currently 131 individuals enrolled in the program. The Legislature reduced the funding stream from \$500,000 to \$100,000. To adapt to this budget cut, it has been proposed to cut poverty level from 250% to 125% of poverty. There is another program coming available called the Primary Care Network. The income level is at 150% of poverty. There will be a one-time \$50.00 enrollment fee. It does not offer the comprehensive services that traditional Medicaid does. Primary care has a 4-prescription limit.

Lynne asked how the numbers would be affected if the poverty level was cut to 125%. Linda Asa will find out.

**(Answer-**There is currently 120 cases in February that were eligible for the Work Incentive program. If the income limit were dropped to 125% of poverty (\$895) it would cover 38% of those 120 cases. At 133% of poverty (\$953) it would cover 49% of the cases.)

The UMAP program will be discontinued. The thought is that the Primary Care Network will replace it. This year the Legislature removed the funding for adult dental coverage in the Medicaid Program. It is uncertain whether the hearing benefits were affected. The Coalition has worked hard to make sure this didn't happen. It is recommend that a focus group of consumers discuss options for assisting Michael Deily and the coalition if they do not have a focus group already. Motion seconded by Mande. Vote unanimous.

### **Report from Grant Oversight & Evaluation Work Group on work group focus and improving the PAR process.**

The Grant Oversight & Evaluation Work Group discussed dividing the Work Incentives group into subgroups to deal with the program issues and interventions, and then give advice to the larger Work Incentives group. The suggested sub-groups are: BPAO, Medicaid Work Incentives and Ticket to Work. Sub-groups will decide their own facilitator and how meeting will be conducted.

### **Benefits Planning, Assistance & Outreach retreat**

The UWIC Work Incentives group is proposing a one-day retreat to determine the need and desire for a coordinated state system for the provision of benefits assistance and counseling to Social Security Disability Beneficiaries. (See Proposal)

Susan O'Mara has agreed to facilitate the retreat at no charge while doing a site visit for Choose To Work. The tentative date for the retreat would be in early May. The proposal will go to the Executive Board at their meeting on Thursday. A planning committee (BPAO Sub-Group) will conference call w/Susan O'Mara to discuss the retreat.

*BPAO sub-group members:*

Jolene Wyler	Kathy Daley	Corliss Neuber	Family Council Member
Drew Hyde	Rick Cobia	Margot Dana	Judith Holt
Matt Knotts	Donna Sato		

**Medicaid Work Incentive (Buy-In) evaluation**

George, from the Utah State University, Lynn and Linda Asa are studying the data warehouse that is being created. The warehouse is located in cyberspace at the state capitol. It is undetermined if or how the state funding issues will impact the data warehouse. CMS (formerly known as HCFA) is seeking feedback on data elements. Linda Asa is trying to learn about the data that CMS wants through the data warehouse. Linda has access to the database and can separate out aggregate information for evaluation.

Margot Dana has been researching informed consent and stated that most people don't realize that they are even in a system somewhere. She stated that informed consent is not needed for aggregate evaluation however is needed for sharing among agencies. The Mouse committee has been discussing these same issues dealing with informed consent.

*MWI sub-group members:*

Drew Hyde	Dan Crandall	Margot Dana	Lynne MacLeod
Tom Dubach	Nonie Lancaster	Linda Asa	Sarah Rule
Judith Holt	George Julnes		

**Ticket to Work Implementation plans and Noreen Brown**

The Ticket will come to Utah in August 2003. There are currently 13 states administering the Ticket and there have been 25,000 tickets given out with 80 Tickets assigned to an Employment Network. There is a planning conference in May for the second round of ticket states. States are gathering information on how ticket is working and the major issues to deal with. There were 10,000 calls to Maximus the first week of ticket. There is a lot of planning to be done in Utah before we receive the Ticket and we have hired a Ticket Coordinator to deal with the issues, procedures, coordination and training. There will be an expected 32,000 Tickets sent out in Utah. Noreen will also develop an evaluation system for the CTW Program.

Corliss will check on the number of individuals excluded from Ticket by the Medical Improvement Expected (MIE) regulations. However the National SSA is evaluating the findings they have collected and that information may not have been collected. Also, the language is being looked at on the MIE.

The Ticket does nothing but create attention for Vocational Rehabilitation. An individual can get services through Voc Rehab without having a ticket or going through an employment network. Voc Rehab has already started looking at those people not eligible for Ticket through the DDS transmittals. Dianne Brown has been marketing Voc Rehab from the DDS transmittals she has received. Of those contacted, individuals choosing Voc Rehab have increased from 7% to 50%. This could have an impact on the "Order of Selection".

TWI sub-group members:

Esther Madina

Noreen Brown

Ruth Petter

Family Council Member

Gerald Smith

Mandee Buckley

Judith Holt

**Action Steps**

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Target Date</i>
<p>Find out how the numbers would be affected if the poverty level were cut to 125% for MWI</p> <p><b>(Answer-</b>There is currently 120 cases in February that were eligible for the Work Incentive program. If the income limit were dropped to 125% of poverty (\$895) it would cover 38% of those 120 cases. At 133% of poverty (\$953) it would cover 49% of the cases.)</p>	Linda Asa	By next meeting
<p>Check on how many states have Medicaid Buy-in.</p>	Cathy Chambless	By next meeting
<p>Check on Individual exclusions on Ticket due to MIE status. Also check on backlog with DDS on Continuing Disabilities Reviews (CDRs)</p>	Corliss Neuber Bill Young	By next meeting
<p>Ask Michael Deily to meet with consumers to hear about impact of Medicaid Work Incentive budget cuts</p>	Cathy	This week
<p>Get approval for BPAO retreat from Executive Board; set up planning group to discuss logistics and get date from Susan O'Mara</p>	Bill Young	By next meeting
<p>Meet to finalize membership of sub-groups; staff set up meeting of sub-groups. Define tasks for each group.</p>	Staff	Before next WI meeting

**Recommendations for GOE Group**

Ask Michael Deily to meet with consumers re: impact of MWI cuts.