

UWIN Work Group Minutes

Meeting Date: December 18, 2001

Work Group: Work Incentives (Salmon)

Facilitator: Paul Day and Corey Rowley

Minute Recorder: Tamara Keene

Attendees: Corey Rowley, Dan Crandall, Deborah Bowman, Jolene Wyler, Linda Asa, Linda Smith, Paul Day, Sandra Curcio, Sarah Rule, Susan Loving, Suzette Martellaro, Kathy Daley, Bill young, Cathy Chambless, Hank Liese, Nonie Lancaster, Mande Buckley, Matt Knotts, and Tom Dubach

Next Meeting Date and Location

January 15, 2002 at Judy Buffmire Building (1595 w 500s), South Conference Room, 10:00am-12:00pm. (New members 9:30am-10:00am)

March 12, 2002 at Judy Buffmire Building (1595 w 500s), South Conference Room, 10:00am-12:00pm. (New members 9:30am-10:00am)

Action Item Updates from Past Meetings

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Who</i>
Review of agency publications of content and consistent messages.	Items discussed	All group
Review user Satisfaction with Medicaid Buy-In, user issues and ideas for improvement.	Items discussed	All group
Make recommendation to Outreach and Training about who should get training.	Items discussed	All group

Discussions for Future Meetings

Go through each Intervention and create goals, as was done with Benefits Planning Assistance & Outreach. Possibly create a priority timeline.

Topic and Summary of Discussion

Purpose (as on handout for UWIN folder)

Participatory Action Research (PAR) and its use within the workgroup

Bring people together who have diverse perspectives and needs for input into system change

- 1- State Agencies
- 2- Service Providers
- 3- Employers
- 4- People with disabilities
- 5- Evaluators

It is important that everyone's opinions are discussed so all issues and perspectives are brought to the table

- 1- What directions should be taken
- 2- What issues need to be considered and understood

PAR Cycle

Taking Stock
Setting Goals
Developing Strategies
Documenting Progress (Evaluation)

Work Incentive's Role

Advise the Utah Work Incentives Coalition (UWIC), Medicaid Work Incentives (MWI), Benefits Planning Assistance and Outreach (BPA&O), and Ticket to Work.

Represent all voices and share opinions and ideas

Help interpret the information and what it means

- Feedback to implementation
- Think how issues are being dealt with
- Ticket to Work updates and progress—voucher program from Social Security Administration (SSA)
Utah plans to implement in 2003

Topic and Summary of Discussion

How can the Work Incentives Workgroup help to clarify simple issues that could aid in obtaining accurate information?

-Build a trust with individuals by helping create standardization across agencies and facilitate accurate information dissemination

How do we develop a system that is secure and stable while addressing potential risks?

Topics to consider for each intervention

- 1- How will this work?
- 2- How will agencies prepare?
- 3- What is successful in other states? What isn't?

Benefits Planning Assistance & Outreach (BPA&O) Intervention

Currently 2 benefits specialists are employed by the State. They meet with people who are on SSI/SSDI and want to go back to work.

Determine where people are at with working and how it may affect Social Security Benefits

-Early intervention

-Advise individuals

Goal is to get people into employment and transition them off of benefits

Need accurate and complete information so there is a good understanding for individual who want to go back to work.

Source of referral and benefits planner

Consistent support to individuals

Find some solutions to the SSA overpayment issue

SSA system is not fast enough to respond to individuals and their situations

SSA needs to catch up / Advocacy could assist program

Can something be done, possibly by limiting how far back an individual is liable for?

-Federal Legislation

-Orrin Hatch asked for personal letters and stories to describe the overpayment issues

This could be a good way to begin impacting a system change

Talk to SSA representatives who are handling case to help expedite this system when an individual knows they are being overpaid.

Is it possible to create a system change in SSA or create a position that can handle the overpayment issue?

-Probably not feasible because SSA is a Federal Agency and must be consistent nationwide.

Invite people who know and understand the SSA to the Work Incentives workgroup.

Topic and Summary of Discussion

Work Incentives Goals for BPA&O

- 1- Provide accurate information
 - specific to SSA beneficiaries with disabilities regarding work
- 2- Change systems and create something more responsive
 - example is dealing with the SSA overpayment issue
- 3- Get Agency funding in the provision of standardizing benefits planning
 - equity of service
- 4- Statewide quality assurance
 - Standardization across agencies
 - Grievance process
 - Discover what kind of certifications exist in UT

Action Steps

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Target Date</i>
Find out where DSPD is with benefits planning.	Paul D/Rick C	January 15, 2001
Set up a meeting with CCPD (Helen Post).	Corey	January 15, 2001
Gather personal letters concerning SSA overpayments.	Jolene for 1 letter Anyone else who can	January 15, 2001
Invite a SSA representative who can help group understand how their system operates.	Linda	January 15, 2001
Call Corliss and personally invite her to attend the next meeting.	Nonie	January 15, 2001
Invite an Employment Supports Representative to next Work Incentives meeting.	Mandee	January 15, 2001
Invite SC providers	Paul	January 15, 2001
Get UWIN folders to new members at the next meeting.	Tamara	January 15, 2001
Send a copy of the "invite" letter to Linda.	Tamara	December 21, 2001
Have a Work Incentives group member attend Cathy and Kathy's presentation to UBHN.	Corey	January
Get an overview of the main issues from other states concerning quality assurance issues and present to Work Incentive workgroup. (Susan O'Mere)	Kathy Daley	January 15, 2001

Recommendations for GOE Group

What will the process be for taking a look at all related pamphlets to ascertain valid and consistent information is presented to the targeted audiences?

Work Incentives group has talked about preparing targeted letters to different constituent groups that would outline the benefits planning, Medicaid Buy in, and who to contact. Could someone from the GOE group draft this letter or pamphlet?