

# THE WORK SHEET

*Employment happenings in Utah for our peeps.*

*The Employment Partnership results in agencies collaborating and coordinating their policies, resources, services, and training to more effectively serve individuals with disabilities to achieve their employment goals.*

## SOCIAL SECURITY

Esther Medina provided updates on Social Security information. There will not be a COLA increase next year for SSI. Interestingly, this adjustment is connected to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage and Clerical Workers. If there is an increase in Medi-

care premiums approximately 90% of recipients will be protected or "held harmless" from the increase.

As of 11/12/10 there will be Quick Disability Determination where the disability examiner can make the determination without sign off from a

consultant (M.D.). These determinations can potentially be completed in a matter of days.

Of 58,000 Tickets in Utah, only 5,640 are in use or assigned.

For more information contact Esther Medina at [esther.medina@ssa.gov](mailto:esther.medina@ssa.gov)

## SSDI "1 FOR 2" UPDATE

Sara McCormick discussed Utah's participation in the Benefit Offset Pilot Project. The project demonstrated positive results with increased earnings in "treatment" and "control" groups. Initial enrollment was 502 of which 256 received the offset. Only two

pilot states (WI and VT) have been selected to participate in the BOND (Benefits Offset National Demonstration) which will include part or all of 16 states with 20% of all SSDI recipients participating. Contact Sara McCormick at [sara.mccormick](mailto:sara.mccormick)

## TRAININGS 4 US

### SUGGESTED TOPICS

Housing

Guardianship & other at 18 "stuff"

Covering the gap between insurance and deductibles

UDOH Dental/Health Clinics

## BRIEF UPDATES

Highlights from National Disability Employment Awareness Month included the Golden Key Award Program described as "awesome". The Disability Mentoring Day at Swire-Coca Cola had 137 transition students in attendance. The WAU Job Fair hosted 323 people, 27 businesses that

were accepting resumes and interviewing onsite, and 4 organizations with volunteer opportunities. Smaller groups participated in other activities including the WISE Events, Nuts & Bolts, Pieces of the Puzzle, Legislative Advocacy and Alliance for Full Participation.

The Mental Health Work Group update highlighted a presentation to Davis Behavioral Health who are very excited about including employment in recovery with OJT, supported employment and employment network information. They are pursuing becoming an employment network.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- \* The Utah Parent Center has new trainings including Getting and Keep Your First Job and Journey to Adulthood. For a complete schedule see their website [www.utahparentcenter.org](http://www.utahparentcenter.org).
- \* Primary Care Network Open Enrollment 11/8-11/22/10 1-888-222-2542 [www.health.utah.gov/pcn](http://www.health.utah.gov/pcn)

- \* Customized Employment, Lindon, UT 11/17/10, call (877) 246-9675 or email [esimon@utah.gov](mailto:esimon@utah.gov) to RSVP.
- \* Alliance For Full Participation, (Young Adult Employment) Utah Developmental Disabilities Council, 11/30/10 contact Bonnie Martineau
- \* Next Employment Partnership

meeting, 12/2/10 with the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities from **12-2 p.m. at DSVBI 250 North 1950 West Another Time (and location) Changelog!** The Employment Partnership will gather briefly after the LCPD meeting

- \* Save the date for Family Links

## EMPLOYMENT PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS:

In case you wondered...

- Individuals with disabilities
- Parents and Advocates
- Utah State Office of Rehabilitation
- USOR Employer Relations
- USOR Benefits Planning
- Department of Workforce Services
- Utah State Office of Education, Special Education
- Division of Services for People with Disabilities
- Division of Medicaid and Health Financing
- Utah Independent Living Council
- Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health
- Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
- Division of Community and Family Health Services
- Utah Parent Center
- Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities
- Utah Association of Community Services
- UBET/Chamber of Commerce
- Governor's Office of Economic Development
- Utah Developmental Disabilities Council
- USU Center for Persons with Disabilities
- Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities
- Becoming Leaders for Tomorrow
- Work Ability Utah

### Employment Partnership

Facilitators: Carol Ruddell & Sara McCormick  
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Conference, March 25-26, 2011. Sessions and sponsorship are still available.

- \* Got an event or announcement? Email Carol Ruddell. Check the Work Ability website calendar for details about these and more events, [www.workabilityutah.org](http://www.workabilityutah.org).