

# 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.*

## IT'S A WRAP-LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS

Expect the best, plan for the worst and prepare to be surprised.—Denis Waitley

In preparation for the legislative session, agencies were asked to propose budgets which reflected a

7-10% decrease. The legislature passed those budgets. After revenue projections were released, much of the funds were restored. A frustrating experience for many but the positive spin is that it provided agencies and legislators

the opportunity to really understand their agencies better. Particular bright spots included Employment First Priority and Supported Employment. To view a great document summarizing this information go to <http://lcpdut.org/files/>

## ALLIANCE FOR FULL PARTICIPATION (AFP)

AFP started two years ago, with the focus on employment for individuals with developmental disabilities. There is a national AFP which has developed scorecard to assess the progress in each state. Claire from Utah Developmental Disability Council

(UDDC) wanted to discuss the Utah's scorecard to re-evaluate previous rankings. She also requested help from the Employment Partnership in setting up a dialogue to explore all facets of employment and day training programs. Consensus was that

there be an open forum that included all perspectives and all stakeholders and that it include success stories from individuals with disabilities, their families and employers. UDDC is looking for input on their 5 year strategic plan found at <http://utahddc.org>

## OTHER BITS AND PIECES

The Center for Public Policy and Administration recently completed an evaluation of the PWDNET program from the businesses' perspective. Full report at <http://www.workabilityutah.org/about/products.php>

The Mental Health Group has been asked by VMH-Tooole to present on employment as a part of recovery and ways to support employment with their clients.

Hands On is coming to Utah. The recent purchase of the

Canyons Resort will allow Hyatt to bring this culinary arts training program here.

Safelink Wireless is a national program that provides free wireless services to income eligible individuals. See [www.safelinkwireless.com](http://www.safelinkwireless.com)

## 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
- Bureau of Children with Special Health Care Needs
- Easter Seals
- 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
- Work Ability Utah

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- \* April 18, **BACA Fundraiser**, at any Texas Roadhouse (Statewide) 4-10 pm
- \* LCPD "Heroes on the Hill" Luncheon, June 2 RSVP to Trish Rouse [trouse@usilc.org](mailto:trouse@usilc.org)
- \* 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)
- \* **Customized Employment Training** in Price, April 20 and St. George, May 18 RSVP to (877) 246-9675 or email [esimon@utah.gov](mailto:esimon@utah.gov)
- \* Ongoing online technology trainings through Utah Assistive Technology Program <http://uatpat.org/resources/training/training.htm>
- \* **Runway Ruby's - watch for more details via email!**
- \* **Annual Salt Lake Valley Agency Fair**, April 28 Bingham High School 6-8 p.m.
- \* For upcoming events through the Utah Parent Center visit [www.utahparentcenter.org](http://www.utahparentcenter.org)
- \* Next Employment Partnership meeting May 5 at 2:30 at the Buffmire Building

**Employment Partnership Facilitators: Carol Ruddell & Sara McCormick**  
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