



# 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.*

## SUBMINIMUM WAGE EXPLORATION

The National Council on Disability recommended phasing out the subminimum wage. In an effort to be proactive and understand how the possible phase-out might affect Utah, the Employment Partnership began explorations of the issue. Members were asked to submit responses to several

questions that would identify stakeholders, possible impacts of the phase-out on stakeholders, supports needed if the phase-out happened, alternative day activities, and other comments from the group.

The Employment Partnership

realizes that there are many groups that would be affected that are not part of the current discussions.

Provider services, families, and any other groups are encouraged to join meetings or share comments to help explore the issue.

## SUBMINIMUM WAGE CONTINUED...

The Employment Partnership is gathering current examples regarding subminimum wage use and the phase-out process in other states.

If you know colleagues in other states that have moved away from subminimum wage, please ask for their

input on the transition process and the effect on the system of services. Those states include Louisiana, New York, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Vermont, and Washington. Also, ask what the individuals who were paid subminimum wage are doing

now.

The Employment Partnership is interested in gathering information about the business model that uses subminimum wage. Representatives from these employers are encouraged to join the meetings to share different perspectives.

## BRIEF UPDATES

- \* The Employment First work group is gathering information to present to the Legislature in November.
- \* The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) has not been authorized yet, except for veterans. Hold on to your paperwork in case

Congress acts.

- \* Thank you to organizers and participants for making the Disability Employment Awareness Month activities a great success.
- \* Thank you to Utah's political leaders for your support of people with disabilities.

## LEGISLATIVE

The 2013 Legislative Session will be here soon. Join the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities (LCPD) meetings to follow proposed laws and other legal issues. A state tax credit is one issue that is being explored. Get involved and be part of the discussions. Visit [www.lcpdut.org](http://www.lcpdut.org).

## 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

**Employment Partnership Facilitators: Carol Ruddell  
Newsletter: Al Romeo  
Email Carol for meeting minutes and attachments:**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* November is National Family Caregivers Month. Say, "thank you" to a caregiver. The Utah Caregivers Coalition Conference will be held on November 13, 2012 with the Hospice Association.
- \* November 8, 2012 is the Hiring our Heroes Job Fair at the South Towne Expo Center.
- \* Join us for the next Employment Partnership meeting, December 1, 2012 at the Buffmire Building. Share your thoughts on sub-minimum wage; share your organization's news; or make connections to support employment for people with disabilities.
- \* Register for the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Train the Trainer event on December 4-5, 2012. Free. Training experience required. Visit [www.utahfetalalcohol.org](http://www.utahfetalalcohol.org)
- \* The Role of Vocational Rehabilitation in Facilitating Self-Employment training on November 19, 2012. Visit [www.usetp.org](http://www.usetp.org) for details.
- \* Utah Parent Center Mini Transition Conference January 28-29, 2013 in Davis School District.. For additional conference dates visit [utahparentcenter.org](http://utahparentcenter.org).
- \* February 14, 2013 is the LCPD Heroes on the Hill Reception at the Capitol. Watch for details.
- \* The Family Links Conference will be held in the Salt Lake area on March 8-9, 2012.