



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.

SEQUESTRATION

The federal budget cuts known as sequestration are beginning to take effect. Many State agencies with federal grants are facing cuts, usually between 5-7%.

The cuts for the current fiscal year may seem slightly larger since the cuts are usually for the total year's budget with only a few months left to cut that total amount.

Many programs that serve young children, elderly, or low-income individuals will face challenges. Some programs do not have State funding, such as Head Start, and will feel the federal cuts more than other programs.

Mental health services, including housing, have faced significant cuts.

Services for children with special needs will likely face reductions as a result of the combination of sequestration and the recent legislative session's lack of additional funding.

Organizations that receive contracts, such as the Utah Parent Center, are facing cuts with amounts varying depending on the funding source.

HOMELESSNESS

Recent data indicates that chronic homelessness is down some, compared to past years and possibly as a result of the definition. The loss in funding for housing will likely have a lasting impact on those numbers and available services.

While data indicate that there are no chronically homeless veterans, there are still some veterans that are homeless for some periods of time.

The Freedom Landing apartments offer a transitional program for veterans. The VA Medical Center provides out-

reach and referrals to medical, dental, mental health, clothing, transportation, housing, substance abuse, and employment services.

There is an increase in the number of homeless families, likely as a result of the poor economy.

BRIEF UPDATES

- * KSL's Breaking the Silence segment on suicide, with videos, is available online at <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=165&sid=24891404>. See the minutes for the KSL link with additional resources.
- * Sequestration is affecting

civilian employees at Hill Air Force Base and other federally-funded jobs such as air-traffic controllers and TSA employees.

- * The recent Transition Symposium helped school districts develop plans. Some parents were not comforta-

ble "labeling" students due to possible negative consequences. Lack of discussions of disabilities can impact self-care, self-advocacy, and accessing services which may hinder the transition process.

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: © 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS & UPDATES

- * Maternal & Child Health Block Grant comment period open til May 10 at <http://health.utah.gov/mch/?p=publicCmnt>
- * Family Movie Night: Soul Surfer, May 11, 2013 at the St. Ambrose Catholic Church Parish Hall in Salt Lake City
- * Out of the Shadows: Exposing Stigma. a mental health event May 11, 2013
- * Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training for suicide prevention May 16, 2013
- * Wellness, as showing of paintings by Jane Wright May 18, 2013
- * Crisis Counseling Conference May 20, 2013
- * PCN will be open April 22 through May 6 for all adults and then continuing through May 17 for adults with minor children health.utah.gov/pcn
- * Symposium on Transition to Career Pathways June 27 at the Salt Lake Community College Miller Campus
- * See the NAMI Utah May Mental Health Awareness Month calendar for facts, events, suggestions, and more
- * See the Utah Parent Center website for more events
- * The next Employment Partnership Meeting will be on June 6, 2013 at the Judy Buffmire Building