



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.

SOFT SKILLS FOR EMPLOYABILITY

The soft skills that a person has are a necessary part of successful employment. Soft skills are all the things that an individual needs to do for employment that are not directly related to the technical job skills.

For example, arriving to work on time, dressing appropriately, having appropriate personal hygiene, interacting

with co-workers, and other daily activities are key skills for keeping a job. Most employers will be able to teach the job skills but will not teach the soft skills.

There are groups that focus on teaching these skills. People Helping People works with low-income women and helps them with skills such as job interviewing. Valley Ser-

vices teaches word processing, computer troubleshooting, money management, appropriate work behaviors, communication, social, self-worth, employability, and many other work-related skills.

Check with your local school, community college, or Vocational Rehabilitation office to see what other classes might be available in your area.

MEDICAID EXPANSION: COST/BENEFIT

A recent Cost/Benefit was made available from the Utah Department of Health. There are five expansion scenarios with different combinations of expansion and benefits.

The analysis indicates that the Full Option Expansion with Full Benefits and the Full Op-

tion Expansion with Benchmark Benefits, both with expanding to 138% of poverty for adults, provide the greatest potential savings to Utah in the short term. In the long term, there will be additional costs to Utah, but the two scenarios would cost less than

the other scenarios including the two Partial Expansion (Full and Benchmark Benefits) and the Mandatory Only scenario.

Committees will be meeting with the Governor in September to provide brief presentations before the Governor's announced decision.

BRIEF UPDATES

- * Utah's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) is being updated. The system does not deal with eligibility but includes everything else from authorizations to claim payments.
- * Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Waivers, 1915c, are being amended with 85% of funds to be used for the most needy families and 15% of funds to be used for respite care.
- * Medicaid funds may now be used to make improvements, such as adding grab bars, to another person's home, according to CMS.
- * The Aging Waiver will allow transition expenses such as supplies for a new home.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MORE UPDATES

- * DSPD Provider Fair June 20 at Jordan High. Email nancyperrez@utah.gov.
- * Tell the Employment Partnership how sequestration is affecting your organization.
- * Visit workabilityutah.org for tips and information about work, hiring, Social Security, health care, transition and community living.
- * Symposium on Transition to Career Pathways June 27 at the Salt Lake Community College Miller Campus
- * The Mental Health First Aid Course for Vocational Rehabilitation was successful and provided ideas for future courses.
- * Emergency Preparedness Tips: Keep one gallon of water per person per day with additional water for nursing mothers, children, and sick people. Keep a 3-day supply, or more, of water especially in warm-weather climates. Store water in clean, tightly-sealed plastic containers.
- * The supported employment program is being delayed due to sequestration.
- * The Technology Dependent Waiver added 10 new slots.
- * The July Employment Partnership Meeting will be cancelled due to the Independence Day holiday. Watch for announcements for the August meeting.

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**