
MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, April 1st
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Location: Department of Workforce Services
Room 157-A
1385 S. State Street
Salt Lake City

Conference Call-in Number: 1-866-456-0016
Access Code: *2658942* (be sure to hit * before and after code)

DWS/Work Supports:

1:00 Welcome and Introductions

1:05 Follow-up items

I. Aging, disabled and LTC customer case closures and processing of applications. (Dave Ostrom)

It was mentioned at the last meeting that there would be an attempt to get a letter to long term care facilities alerting them to the policies of DWS regarding notices, recertification, etc. Also, has DWS been successful in getting a client list from LTR facilities? Following up to see how things are going.

II. E-Rep

Has E-Rep moved beyond American Fork? What have been the areas the state has had to rework with the pilot? What are the latest timelines? What were the inquiries from the legislature about E-Rep? (Sheila Walsh-McDonald)

1:20 Legislative General Session Review (Mike Richardson)

- I. Now that the general session is over, will do a brief review of the outcomes, DWS's plans to deal with budget cuts, and future priorities.
- II. Review of what worked well with the advocates and DWS, what could be improved, and what may be some future challenges for our consumers. (Sheila Walsh-McDonald)
- III. **HB 218** – what is the timeline for rulemaking for FEP benefits now that HB 218 has passed? How soon is DWS going to do rules about FEP cash payment amounts? (Karen Silver)
- IV. **Unemployment Insurance Benefits** – given that, at this time, the state did not opt to take the federal ARRA money for UI that is linked with the

modernization provisions, how will this impact DWS's ability to pay for UI benefits? (Bill Starks)

1:50 American Recovery & Reinvestment Act – Stimulus Funding Overview & Impacts

2:10 Worksites for Worksite Learning Participants (JoAnna McNamee)

2:20 New Eligibility Services Division (ESD) (Diane Lovell)

DOH/Health:

2:30 Welcome and Introductions

2:35 Department of Health's new Robert Wood Johnson Grant to Maximize Enrollment in CHIP and Medicaid (Nate Checketts)

This is a four-year initiative to increase enrollment and retention of eligible children in the state's public health insurance programs: Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Utah Premium Partnership (UPP). Utah was one of 8 states to receive this grant.

2:50 Department of Health overview of legislative session (Michael Hales)

Toward the start of the General Session Utah Medicaid was facing an untenable situation: over 10% enrollment growth and a 14% budget reduction! Clearly, something had to give. Initially, we faced draconian cuts in eligibility itself, including coverage for pregnant women, eligibility for seniors and people with disabilities; a rollback of provider reimbursement rates to pre FY2007 levels, and deep reductions in hospital payments. These cuts were on top of an already substantial 3% reduction that occurred during a September 2008 special session which, among other things, resulted in the loss of critical outpatient services like physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, eyeglasses, and dental care. However, thanks to the federal economic recovery package, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the Legislature was given ample resources to reverse the course. Policymakers agreed to meet the "maintenance of effort" requirements to restore all Medicaid eligibility cuts; in exchange, the ARRA will provide Utah with over \$200 million. The Legislature decided to keep most of that money in the Medicaid program. Besides restorations to eligibility, the Legislature restored physician reimbursement rates, some of the cuts to non-physician providers and hospitals, and thanks to the tenacity and bold leadership of Sen. Pat Jones, restored outpatient physical therapy and occupational therapy.

Topics Welcome!

We find these meetings are most productive when topics are generated by the community. Please email ideas for topics to melissa@utahcap.org. Thanks.