
MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2009
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)

DOH/Health:

1:00 Welcome and Introductions

1:05 Utah Medicaid's Medicaid Asset Test (Michael Hales)

Discussion on the pros and cons of removing the Medicaid asset test.

To ensure that it serves those who are truly in need, Medicaid is a means based entitlement program. Utah determines a family's means using two criteria: income and assets. The income standard is fairly straightforward: as long as household income falls under the limit for a given eligibility category, the standard is met. The second test, the asset test, however, is much less popular among states. Only two states continue use the asset test when determining eligibility for children.

For more information about the asset test, please read UHPP's position paper, [Remove Utah's Medicaid Asset Test: Eliminating Barriers to Self Sufficiency](#)

2:10 Update on RWJF Maximizing Enrollment For Kids

The Maximizing Enrollment for Kids Grant aims to help states increase enrollment and retrenching of eligible children in Medicaid and CHIP and establish and promote best practices among states. Utah was awarded this grant earlier this year. Over the summer, RWJ has been evaluating the state's current program and will soon be recommending policy changes to improve Utah's enrollment and retention in CHIP, UPP and Medicaid.

The Department will provide an update on the status of the grant.

For more information about the grant please visit: www.maxenroll.org

DWS/Work Supports:

2:30 Welcome and Introductions

Follow-up Items

2:35 GA Redesign Update

Jeff Webster: Tough to redesign program – will limit the times to 12 months in a 60 month period for long-term disabled (will work with SOAR model) – real good outlook that will be successful with this population, SOAR has been very successful. Central, North and Mountainland using the model. Short-term track (“impairment”) limit changed – from 30 days to 60 days, and will have impairment less than a year, 6 months in a 12 month period.

62% of cases pursuing long-term disability, 38% on short-term track.

- plans for transitions, have notices gone out? Letters of explanation sent to all GA members to notify them of changes, etc. Went out on June 19th. Letters also went out to customers who would be effected by changes and have cases closed as well. Offering resource lists, etc., to help them get other help. Attempting to meet with all customers that are going to be put off the program in person, is hard, but making house visits, etc.
- rural areas that only have PAs or NPs
- Legislature’s response
- MOU’s and invoicing – work specifically with doctors and they would understand program and the new form. Currently the form they use is for all programs – now have Form I GA. Workgroup wanted a group of physicians to refer directly, but weren’t able to pull it together in the timeline – goal is to get this started in October.
- Can DWS show us the budget back-up that demonstrates the savings that will be achieved by making these changes?
- When will DWS initiate rulemaking? Does DWS intend on implementing these changes through emergency rulemaking?

2:45 WIA Stimulus Plan & Comment Period

- Update on Partner’s Meeting and next steps.

2:55 Child Care for Summer Youth Program (Karen Silver)

Is child care offered for the summer youth program? If not, what are plans to address this?

3:05 Drug Testing of TANF Recipients

- quick overview of Interim Session
- what has DWS heard since session?

3:15 Possibility of Adding a Definition to Hardship for FEP Extensions. (Karen Silver)

For those who have timed out of FEP and have worked but lost their jobs because of the economic downturn & don't qualify for UI. This could compensate somewhat for the Employer's Council refusing to give help to part-time workers.

3:25 Position of Intervention Specialist. (Karen Silver)

How helpful has it been? What is the return on investment? Is GA going to have an intervention specialist for those 400 people no longer eligible? It seems like it would be helpful, as we know these folks are very vulnerable.

3:35 Legislative Priorities (Mike Richardson)

3:45 Audit of DWS

Executive Appropriations last month is requesting an audit of DWS finances. What will the departments strategy be on this?

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 (DWS topics) or lincoln@healthpolicyproject.org (Health topics). Thanks.