
Issue Brief –Supported Employment Pilot

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

NUMBERDHS-08-10

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

During the 2006 General Session, the legislature passed H.B. 31, “Pilot Program for the Provision of Services for People with Disabilities providing a two-year pilot program for supported employment services with one-time General Funds of \$150,000. DSPD is requesting one-time General Funds of \$150,000 for year two of this pilot program.

OBJECTIVE

Each year, DSPD strives to reduce the waiting list. Total funding to eliminate the waiting list is \$21.5 million with \$7.8 million (36 percent) from General Funds and \$13.7 from federal Medicaid match. The goal of this pilot is to provide the services and eliminate those individuals at the bottom of the waiting list that need only limited services to be stabilized. Another purpose for this program is to help those individuals before their needs become critical.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) currently has a waiting list of 1,839 individuals waiting for services. To receive services, people must have substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following life activities: self care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency. DSPD uses a triage method for the waiting list to determine who will move off the waiting list into Home and Community Based Waiver services. Many of the individuals have been on the list for years because they are not as critical. This pilot program provides supported employment to about 100 individuals. The clients served in this program would not be brought into the Medicaid waiver services; therefore they would not qualify for federal matching funds.

During the 2006 interim meeting held November 14, 2006, DSPD reported to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee on the implementation of this pilot which began July 1, 2006. In addition, based on UCA 62A-5-103.1, the subcommittee based on a report by the division director during the 2007 interim is to “determine whether the pilot program... should be converted to an ongoing program within the division (DSPD)”

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of the Analyst that the Subcommittee appropriated one-time General Funds \$150,000 for year two of the Supported Employment Pilot Program.