

# HHS INTERIM COMMITTEE SUNSET REVIEW OF Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities Division of Services for People with Disabilities

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## **Is the program necessary?**

Coordination is important across disability services, and is part of the Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities's purpose identified in statute. It is important to ensure there are processes in place to keep partners engaged and working together.

In addition to those organizations who serve on the council, we have several prominent partners who attend the council regularly and stay engaged, including: the Utah State University Institute for Disability Research Policy, and Practice, the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities and the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council.

We have received feedback from the executive director of the USU IDRPP that he sees value in the council's work and would **like to see it continue**/preserved.

## **Is the program accomplishing its objective?**

The Coordinating Council has effectively focused on coordinating and prioritizing services that help people be integrated in their communities by reviewing the Interagency Outreach Training Initiative (IOTI) grants with USU. The council evaluated what each agency does, and how to support a coordinated effort that meets needs and prevents duplication or inefficiencies. It is difficult to see the effects of a project when it essentially takes the first year to get things started, and the council agreed that the results can be evaluated more effectively after two years. The council's State Board of Education representative also sought advice from the council when preparing to engage a larger group related to education initiatives and discussing how services could be coordinated and supported across agencies.

**Are there ways to improve the program?**

With the consolidation of the Utah Department Of Health and the Utah Department of Human Services effective July 1, many of the members of this council will become members of a single state Department, including members from DSAMH, DSPD, Utah Medicaid, and Children with Special Healthcare Needs. Some of the concerns that initially created the council may be addressed through effective coordination of these groups. Members of the council who will not be part of the consolidated Health and Human Services Department are the Utah State Board of Education, Utah State Office of Rehabilitation, and the Utah Parent Center.

Considering these changes, it may be beneficial to evaluate if all members are still needed on the council.