**State Legislative Visit**

We have presented a request for on-going funding of $750,000 for the 6 Centers of Independence. Senator Todd Weiller is going to submit to the state social services sub-committee for review. We have not had an increase in our budget for the last 5 years. I have attached the request we presented to Senator Weiller.

The CILs were able to meet with Senator Stephanie Pitcher, Representative Mike Schultz, Representative Jennifer Dailey-Provost, Senator Raymond Ward, Senator Michael Kennedy, Senator Carrie Peterson, and Josh Pittman the Financial Analyst for the Social Services Appropriations Committee.

Our local Representative Neil Walter met with me and Andy privately in his office for an hour. He liked what we had to say and sounded very supportive. Hopefully he will be able to convince others as well. I was able to attend several of the Social Services Sub Committee meetings.

I was able also to talk to Representative Marsha Judkins and Darren Owens briefly one on one at the Legislative Reception.

We also got some Advocacy training and had CIL Director’s meeting and meetings with USIL, AILU and LCPD. I was also able to network with organizations in Utah.

**Phone Surveys**

Our switch to phone surveys instead of mailing surveys paid off greatly.

For the last quarter of 2022 we got only 29 mail responses compared with 56 just for the month of January.

**Staff**

Sherrie had a medical emergency and was injured during CRP at home. Due to health issues, she has resigned. Linda, who had been at the front desk part-time, has accepted a full-time position at our front desk. Prior to this occurrence she was our first employee of the month for January.

**VITA**

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) is going to start doing taxes here at St. George location on Feb 3rd. There is an income requirement for the free tax service. You can make an appointment at earnitkeepitsaveitutah.org. It is a good program to continue to support as many of our consumers are low income.

**All Staff Trainings**

A Medicare/Medicaid Representative will be providing training on the plans available for people who are dually eligible for Medicare/Medicaid Healthcare Plans so they can refer consumers.

This will be on Feb 6th along with the behavior training which will teach our staff how to redirect, remove from antecedents, and recognize escalation and to deescalate in consumers.

We will have training at every all-staff meeting. Most training courses will also include a Q90 training course to improve data excellence.

**New Consumers**

33 New consumers in January

**New Lease Agreement**

Our lease is up September 30th. There will be a 4% increase in rent in the first year and 3% each year after. They will take care of all utilities and maintenance and repairs. The last lease we paid for them and had a 2% yearly increase. Our other location rent increases were at 10 %. We can choose from a 3- or 5-year lease.

**Vacation**

My son is getting married. So, I will be in Georgia 3/30 to 4/4 using 4 days of vacation. I will still be available via phone and email if the staff needs me.