

2009 WORK INCENTIVE BENEFITS COUNSELING GRANT
Medicaid Infrastructure Grant funds administered through
Pathways to Independence

Good news! The Work Incentives Benefits Counseling (WIBC) grant will be offered again in 2009.

- The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Systems (CMS) has approved the Wisconsin 2009 Medicaid Infrastructure submission.
- As it always has in the past, prior authorization will continue with up to a 13 hour maximum per consumer per year (with some exceptions as needed). Social Security Numbers will continue to be called or mailed in (no email or fax).
- **The hourly rate will increase from \$42 to \$50.**
- Up to \$20,000.00 is available per agency, or until funds run out. This is the same as past years.
- Grants will be sent out for signature as soon as possible for the new calendar year.

New for 2009.

- Beginning quality assurance measures for all WIBC grantees.
- Pathways wants to insure that the services being funded are accurate and timely for consumers in Wisconsin.
- Pathways staff will request review of up to 20% of prior authorizations and inform the WIBC grantee. If no funds are requested, no reviews will take place.
- The WIBC grantee will be notified of the review and be given a six week deadline to submit a summary for review to the Wisconsin Disability Benefits Network.
- Benefits specialist materials will be reviewed by the WDBN staff within 10 business days of receipt. A rating scale will be used for all reviews.
- A rating of 80% or better of the benefits summary, or written summary of the services provided, will be necessary for payment from Pathways. If the WDBN does not rate a summary at, or above 80%, feedback to the grantee will be provided and revisions may be sent in. Payment will then be made if the rating is 80% or better. An appeals process will be available.
- Review process is expected to highly correlate with benefits specialist certification process.
- Memo of the quality assurance reviews will be sent along with the 2009 grants for your review along with a copy of the rating scale.

Questions?

- Contact Amy Thomson, WIBC grant project lead at 608-266-1164 or email Amy.Thomson@wisconsin.gov

