### **APSE Wisconsin**

Kim Nettleton, Product Development Capabilities UnitedHealthcare Community & State







UnitedHealthcare Community Plan currently services 56 counties out of 72 counties in Wisconsin, cares for more than 150,000 Badgers and is actively engaged in our community!













We offer health plans in 25 states, serving more than 5 million nationwide. We are part of UnitedHealthcare, an industry-leading health benefits company dedicated to helping people live healthier lives.







Integrating
Employment into
Person Centered
Planning Process



Building Networks & Relationships



Improving
Community
Capacity to
Improve
Employment
Outcomes for
Individuals with
Disabilities

## Integrating Employment into Person Centered Planning Process



#### What we have done

- Trained our care coordinators in employment issues
- Provided Employment Specialists to support our care coordinators
- Mapped the system from the perspective of those we serve to identify opportunities for improvement
- Developed tools and resources for the individuals we serve to more easily navigate the system

#### What we have learned

- Employment is a new area for many of our care coordinators and additional support by someone who specializes in employment is critical
- Navigating between Voc Rehab and Medicaid remains challenging for many individuals but we continue to work to find ways to improve this process
- Concerns about loss of benefits remain a barrier to meaningful employment for many individuals



### **Building Networks & Relationships**

#### What we have done

- Hired someone very knowledgeable about employment and vocational rehab
- Participated in stakeholder advisory committees to deepen our understanding of critical issues for individuals, families and providers
- Leveraged national partnerships and capacity to bring innovative approaches to the State

#### What we have learned

- Continual opportunity to build relationships and knowledge of managed care within the Voc Rehab community
- While many strategies are local and we need to have a State/Local lens, it is very helpful to be able to borrow from others who are doing well or have "solved" for a particular piece of the employment puzzle





#### What we do

- Survey the landscape
- Listen to individuals, families and other stakeholder to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement
- Evaluate our resources and capacity
- Find strategic partners that help us improve our community and outcomes for those we serve

#### What we have learned

- Relationships that come organically from this process of gap analysis provide the greatest benefit for those we serve and have the most lasting impact
- This approach ensures solutions are rooted in local communities while also borrowing best practices and lessons learned



## **Example: Project SEARCH**



In 2014, UnitedHealthcare Sugarland Office became a host site for Project SEARCH.

#### We partnered with:

- Project SEARCH
- Fort Bend Independent School District
- Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services





## **Example: Kansas System Change Coalition**



Empower Kansans, a community investment grant program established by the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas, supports and participates in a grassroots coalition, the *Employment Systems Change Coalition*, in developing a set of recommendations about employment supports and related policies in Kansas.

- A cross disability group, including Kansans with disabilities
- Constituent engagement activities (focus groups and listening sessions held across the state)
- Research on current best practices in other states
- Consultation and facilitation with National experts on employment of persons with Disabilities
- The Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities is also providing funding for some complementary efforts around employment system issues in Kansas and is a key partner in these activities.

# Questions

