

Monthly Health and Human Services Public Meetings Resume

May 20, 2008 by Elizabeth Ziegler

(KCPW News) Two Salt Lake advocacy groups are teaming up to revive a longstanding monthly meeting with the Department of Health and the Department of Workforce Services. For more than 27 years, these public meetings gave health and human services advocates a forum to air their concerns and make suggestions to improve programs, policies and government, says Lincoln Nehring of the Utah Health Policy Project.

"Despite all our groaning, I think we are fortunate in that our department heads, particularly now, are very receptive and concerned about the community and how they are serving the state," Nehring says.

UHPP and the Utah Community Action Partnership Association will host the meetings. They were formerly organized by the now-defunct advocacy group Utah Issues. Nehring says public input will play a large role in drafting the meeting agendas. The first meeting will take place June 4 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Department of Workforce Services offices.