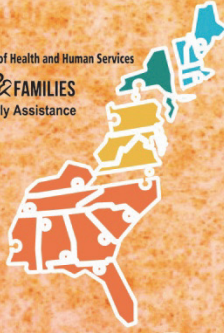




U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
Office of Family Assistance



## OFA Regions I, II, III, & IV TANF Directors East Coast Meeting: Building Linkages Within and Across States to Achieve Family Independence

# Agenda

Radisson Blu Warwick Hotel, 220 South 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA

\*Please note: All sessions will take place in Assembly/Grand Ballroom.

### Day One: Tuesday, August 12, 2014

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Registration (Mezzanine Foyer)

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **State Commissioners and Secretaries ACF and OFA Leadership and Regional Office Staff Meeting**  
This session will be an opportunity for State/Territory Human Service Commissioners and Secretaries to engage in an interactive dialogue with Mark Greenberg, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Susan Golonka, Acting Director, Office of Family Assistance (OFA), and Regional Office staff about national and State issues of significance related to the TANF program and Administration priorities for promoting economic and family stability. Some discussion points include challenges faced by human services agencies and how the federal government can be more helpful; how TANF can be used to support a “two-generation” approach to reducing poverty; challenges/successes in developing employment opportunities for TANF recipients; State successes in providing comprehensive, integrated services to families served by multiple systems; and how the growing knowledge about the role of executive functioning, and of the impact of toxic stress/adverse experiences in childhood can help stakeholders design programs that will achieve better outcomes for families.

**Mark Greenberg**, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families

**Susan Golonka**, Acting Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families

**Carol Monteiro**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region I (Boston)

**Frank Ceruto**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region II (New York)

**Eileen Friedman**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region III (Philadelphia)

**LaMonica Shelton**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region IV (Atlanta)

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch on your own**

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

**Essey Workie**, Regional Administrator, Administration for Children and Families, Region III

**Eileen Friedman**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region III

**Lourdes Padilla**, Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Meeting Overview: Discussion with ACF and OFA Leadership**

During this session, attendees will have the opportunity to engage in dialogue with ACF and OFA leadership on issues of national, regional, and local importance to the TANF program and discuss ACF and OFA priorities and initiatives.

**Mark Greenberg**, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families

**Susan Golonka**, Acting Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families

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- 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**      **State Dialogue and Peer-to-Peer Discussion**  
During this interactive session, States/Territories will be given an opportunity to write down on index cards particular questions, challenges, and/or innovation solutions they would like to discuss in more depth with their peers that will be collected and then randomly selected for discussion among the group. Index cards that are not addressed during the session will be collected for follow-up throughout the remainder of the meeting or to be posted on the Welfare Peer TA Network website.  
**Facilitator:**            **LaMonica Shelton**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region IV
- 3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**      **Break**
- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**      **Redesigning Your TANF Program to Strengthen Services and Improve Employment Outcomes**  
This facilitated session will provide opportunities for participants to learn from jurisdictions that have recently restructured their TANF programs, including their processes and procedures to improve client outcomes. Redesigning efforts have included enhancements to assessment, engagement, case management, service coordination, and/or business process re-engineering. Panelists will also discuss the impetus for these efforts and how to gain support for them. The discussion will encourage meeting participants to reflect on the structure of their own TANF programs.  
**Speakers:**            **Peter Palermino**, Program Manager, Connecticut Department of Social Services  
**Deborah Carroll**, Interim Director, District of Columbia Department of Human Services  
**Katie Griego**, Acting Director, Employment and Benefits Division, Colorado Department of Human Services  
**Facilitator:**            **Susan Golonka**, Acting Director, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families
- 5:00 p.m.**                    **Day One Closing**  
**Frank Ceruto**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region II

### Day Two: Wednesday, August 13, 2014

- 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**      **Registration and Networking (Mezzanine Foyer)**
- 8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**      **Improving Employment Outcomes: Subsidized Employment, Job Sector Training, Workforce Planning, and Career Pathways Strategies**  
This session will provide meeting participants with new and different strategies for connecting low-income workers and TANF participants into pathways to employment. Several programs will highlight their strategies and focus on long-term career growth opportunities, financial stability/asset building, aligning job opportunities with labor market information and workforce partners' needs, growing job sectors, and postsecondary education systems.  
**Speakers:**            **Stan Koutstaal**, Program Manager, Health Profession Opportunity Grants, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families  
**Kathleen Cloutier**, Executive Director, Dorcas International Institute  
**Shauna King-Simms**, Director, College and Career Transitions, Chancellor's Office, Kentucky Community and Technical College System  
**Elisabeth Babcock, MCRP, Ph.D.**, President and CEO, Crittenton Women's Union  
**Facilitator:**            **Carol Monteiro**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region I
- 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**      **Break**

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**10:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Managing Through Performance Data: Using Program Data to Improve Program Performance**  
Using data to measure and improve program performance is critical. This session will focus on measures of success in establishing family self-sufficiency including what performance measures besides work participation may be appropriate. Speakers will provide meeting participants with strategies for tracking benchmarks and outcomes, such as around tracking contractors, employment outcomes, and much more, through the systems they are using, to ultimately improve TANF program performance.

**Speakers:** **Christina Tschlis**, Program Specialist, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region III  
**Curt Pesicka**, Manager of Operations, City and County of Denver, Workforce Development, TANF, Office of Economic Development  
**Rodney Wright**, Family Support Program Manager, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources  
**Keith Zalaznik**, Senior Manager, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (Deloitte Consulting)

**Facilitator:** **Frank Ceruto**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region II

**12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Lunch on your own**

**1:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Creating an Employment-Focused TANF Program: State Discussions and Work Groups**

During this interactive session, presenters will provide information about how to build an effective employment-focused TANF program. The President signed into law the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act on July 22, 2014. The new law requires a great deal of coordination between the USDOL-ETA programs and TANF programs. ETA is developing several means of collecting stakeholder feedback regarding the legislation. First, this session will be an opportunity for state TANF agencies to learn about ETA's implementation plans for the new law. Then, States/Territories will walk through a self-assessment process to identify policies and practices that encourage and support employment and areas that might be strengthened. Finally, drawing from existing research, this session will describe some of the promising practices from TANF programs across the nation to help States/Territories think about opportunities for integrating new and improving existing services to improve employment outcomes and impacts.

**Speakers:** **Leo Miller**, Acting Regional Administrator, Philadelphia Office, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor  
**Michelle Derr, Ph.D.**, Senior Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research

**Facilitator:** **Carol Monteiro**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region I

**3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Break**

**3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. The Evolution of Your TANF Program**

This session will provide an opportunity for States/Territories to work together in small groups. States/Territories will participate in an interactive storyboarding exercise on what constitutes their ideal TANF program. This exercise is meant to facilitate dialogue and ideas on new and innovative strategies for program improvement and partnerships that help TANF participants receive integrated and comprehensive support and what the outcomes of these strategies look like to TANF directors and stakeholders.

**Facilitator:** **Eileen Friedman**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region III

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- 4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. State Report Outs**  
During this session, States/Territories will report out on their groupwork and storyboarding exercise highlights from the previous session. States/Territories will also discuss key program strategies, comprehensive support services, opportunities, and ongoing challenges in their States and Regions and highlight updates and engage their peers in strategic dialogue meant to increase program innovation and improve implementation outcomes.
- Facilitator:** **Eileen Friedman**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region III
- 5:30 p.m. Day Two Closing**  
**LaMonica Shelton**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region IV

### Day Three: Thursday, August 14, 2014

- 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration and Networking (Mezzanine Foyer)**
- 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Toxic Stress and Homelessness**  
This session will explore the research and impacts of toxic stress and homelessness on vulnerable families and how research and resources available can help with designing programs that achieve better outcomes for families. Speakers will provide information and resources on ending family homelessness and how TANF programs can partner to provide innovative services to support homeless families. This panel will also focus on the impacts of adverse childhood experiences on TANF and SNAP participants; the causes and impacts of executive function (EF) challenges on low-income adults' abilities to further their education and careers; as well as policy and programmatic recommendations to help TANF and SNAP participants to improve EF skills. Examining the needs for simultaneous interventions for parents and their children, meeting participants will learn how TANF programs can instill a two-generation approach to reducing poverty.
- Speakers:** **Amy Sawyer**, Regional Coordinator, National Initiatives Team, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness  
**Mariana Chilton, MPH, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Hunger-Free Communities, Drexel University  
**Elisabeth Babcock, MCRP, Ph.D.**, President and CEO, Crittenton Women's Union
- Facilitator:** **LaMonica Shelton**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region IV
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break**
- 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Taking Action – Implementing Change and Measuring Success: What Do You Have to Do to Get Where You Want to Go?**  
This session will propel States/Territories forward in implementing program changes designed to improve family self-sufficiency and stability. States/Territories will walk through a structured planning process for identifying potential opportunities for change that may be replicated as part of an ongoing program improvement process. In addition, the session will describe and provide examples of low-burden strategies for testing the success of a planned change. This session will also provide an opportunity for States/Territories to identify specific Technical Assistance (TA) needs and opportunities to encourage evidenced-based program improvement.
- Speakers:** **Michelle Derr, Ph.D.**, Senior Researcher, Mathematica Policy Research  
**Louisa Jones**, Manager, Welfare Peer TA Network
- Facilitator:** **James Butler**, Family Assistance Program Specialist, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Closing Remarks**  
**Eileen Friedman**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, Region III