

# Strengthening TANF Programs

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# Changing Demands

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- **Decrease in federal funding to support TANF programs**
  - Declining value and reallocation of the TANF block grant
  - Discontinuation of federal supplemental grants
  - End of American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds
- **Increase in the demand for public assistance programs**
- **High unemployment, fewer full-time jobs**

# Responses by States and Localities

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- **Explicit efforts to reduce program costs**
  - Reductions in state and local administrative and program staffing
  - Reduction in the amount of the cash grant
  - Decreased availability of work and personal supports
- **Limit TANF caseload growth**
- **Modified contracts with local employment service providers**
- **Rethinking TANF practices and performance measures**

# Opportunities

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- **Redefining the vision and mission of the state or local TANF program**
- **Making cost-neutral policy and program changes**
- **Increasing program engagement**
- **Improving business processes**
- **Using data to increase program awareness and performance**