



RUBICON
PROGRAMS
BEGIN THE JOURNEY TO CHANGE.

Richmond, CA

Economic Empowerment Services for High-Barrier Populations

Region IX TANF Innovations in
Action Forum

August 14th, 2012

Rubicon Programs Overview

- Rubicon's mission is to prepare very low-income people to achieve financial independence and to partner with people with mental illness on their journey of recovery.
- Founded 39 years ago in Richmond, CA
- Now serve more than 3,000 people per year across the East San Francisco Bay Area

Economic Empowerment

- 1,200 new clients served in 2011-2012
- 497 clients placed in jobs at average wage of \$11.50 per hour
- Leverage/integration of multiple funding streams:
 - WIA One Stop Career Centers
 - HUD Supportive Services
 - CNCS Social Innovation Fund
 - Health and Human Services



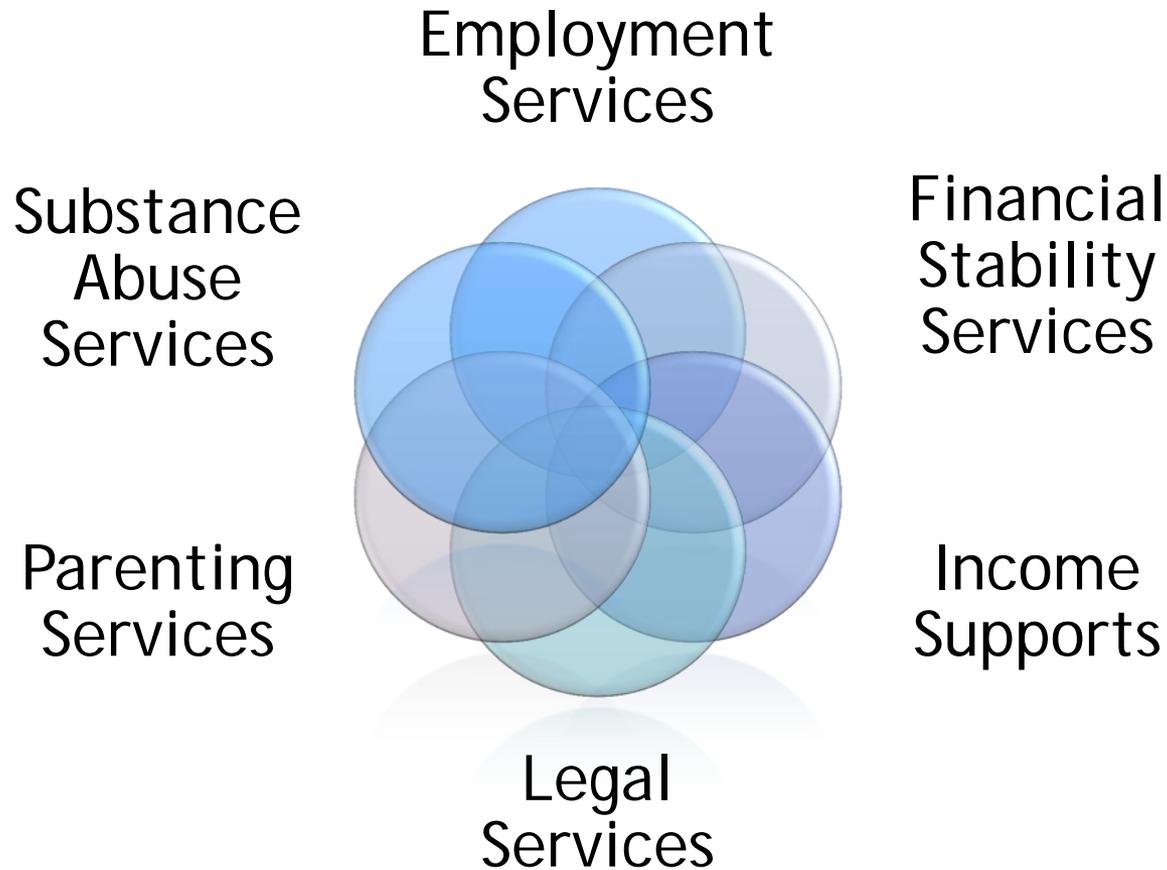
Economic Empowerment

- Client population faces multiple barriers to financial independence:
 - 88% unemployed
 - Over 1/3 have past criminal convictions
 - 75% have a Diploma/GED or less
 - More than half homeless or at risk of homelessness
 - 26% report a psychological disability
 - 10% on CalWorks (TANF)

Deeper impact through integration

- A job is no longer enough
- We are not “In and Out Burger”
- Co-located, “bundled” services (provided internally or by partners)
- Increased retention, engagement, and outcomes

Richmond Financial Opportunity Center



Employment Services

- 2 week intensive job readiness and life skills workshop
- One-on-one career coaching
- Transitional employment on work crews
- Computer literacy
- Job placement assistance
- Job retention and advancement for up to 3 years

Financial Stability Services

- Financial education workshops
 - Financial values and goal setting
 - Money management/budgeting
 - Connecting to mainstream financial products
- One-on-one financial coaching

Income Support Services

- Benefits screening and application assistance
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

Substance Abuse Services

- Relapse prevention groups
- One-on-one counseling
- Drug testing for clients and employers
- Onsite Narcotics Anonymous (NA) group (Fall 2012)

Legal Services

- RAP sheet pull and review
 - Assistance filing for expungement and record sealing
 - Workshop on disclosing criminal record to employers
- Homeless court to clear fines and fees
- Credit report pull and review
 - Assistance contesting errors and resolving outstanding debt

Parenting Services

- On-site child support order review and modification by Department of Child Support Services
- Fatherhood coaching*
- Parenting classes*
- Healthy marriage classes and counseling*
- Family reunification*

**Starting Fall 2012*

Client Success Story: J.J.





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