



# OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

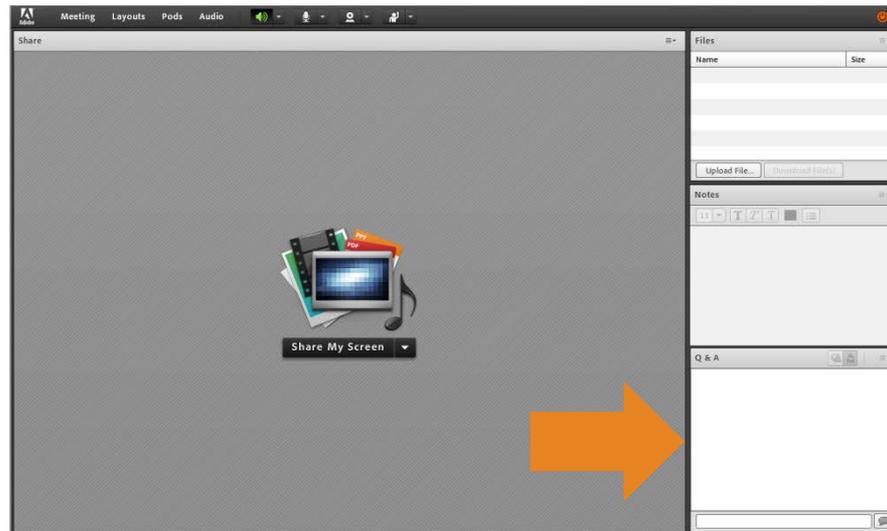
## *SYSTEMS TO FAMILY STABILITY NATIONAL POLICY ACADEMY*

### INFORMATION SESSION

March 4, 2015 | 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EST

# Logistics

- Use the Q & A Box in the bottom right corner of your screen to ask questions.



- Questions we do not get to will be responded to via the OFA PeerTA Web site: <https://peerta.acf.hhs.gov/>

# Welcome and Introductions



***Susan Golonka, Deputy Director***

*Office of Family Assistance*

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

***Lisa Washington-Thomas, Chief, Self-Sufficiency Branch***

*Office of Family Assistance*

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

# Information Session Objectives

- Understand the Systems to Family Stability National Policy Academy's objectives, key focus areas, and anticipated outcomes.
- Learn about the benefits of participating in the Academy and expectations for participating sites.
- Understand the key elements of the Academy nomination instructions and timeframes.
- Have an opportunity to ask questions about the Academy or nomination process and instructions.

# Purpose of the Academy

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- Support state and local efforts to improve employment outcomes for TANF recipients and strengthen service delivery to TANF families.

# Academy Model

- Engages a select group (up to seven) of committed teams representing state and local TANF programs
- Team approach: key administrators, leaders and stakeholders
- Outcome-focused (setting goals, creating a strategic action plan and initiating implementation)
- Opportunities to learn from peers, researchers, policy experts and coaches
- 18 month engagement

# Timeliness of Policy Academy

- 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TANF enactment on the horizon
- Passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- New insights from research
- New practice models and approaches
- State and local TANF “re-design” and improvements efforts underway

# Academy Outcomes

- Use innovative approaches to assess TANF participant needs and deliver more effective case management.
- Adopt job-driven training approaches to provide participants with skills and resources to obtain and retain employment in promising occupations.
- Make improvements across the continuum of employment services from job search and job readiness to post-employment supports.

# Academy Outcomes

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- Build programs that focus simultaneously on parental employment and child well-being.
- Improve TANF internal business processes and service delivery.
- Incorporate practices informed by growing knowledge about executive functioning.

# Strategic Implementation

- Develop a strong leadership team
- Integrate planning, performance measurement, and evaluation
- Develop new or enhance existing strategic partnerships
- Streamline and modernize processes
- Strengthen staff skills, capacities, and knowledge
- Better use available fiscal and human resources

# Who is Eligible?

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- State, territory, and local TANF programs.

# Benefits of Participation

## **Technical Assistance provided will include:**

- Participation in two Academy meetings in Washington, DC (one in 2015 and one in 2016).
- Exposure to emerging and relevant research and experts in the field.
- Experienced coaching teams and peer-to-peer dialogues.
- On-sites and virtual learning opportunities.

# Expectations for Sites

## **Team members must be prepared to:**

- Have at least three key leaders attend the Academy's two meetings in D.C.
- Build a comprehensive home team.
- Have home teams participate in on-site and virtual activities.

# Expectations for Sites

- Have at least one staff person participate in up to six virtual trainings or events.
- Work with OFA and TA coaches to develop a statement of goals, assess gaps, and develop action plans.
- Participate in regular (quarterly) communication with OFA post-Academy on action plan progress and outcomes.

# Nomination Processes

OFA seeks nominees with the capacity to implement change and who have a demonstrated interest in improving TANF employment outcomes and service delivery:

- OFA is interested in nominations of/from state, county, and territory agencies that are interested in one or more of the substantive areas discussed earlier.
- Up to seven state/county/territory TANF agencies will be selected.

# Nomination Processes, continued

- Nominations should include:
  - ▣ No more than five page narrative.
  - ▣ A letter of commitment from the nominee.
  - ▣ A point of contact for the nominee, including his/her title, organization, address, phone number, and email address.
  
- OFA is interested in nominees that demonstrate:
  - ▣ **Organizational capacity**
  - ▣ **Readiness and interest**
  - ▣ **Desired outcomes**
  
- OFA will consider the above factors, as well as diversity in geography and administrative structures, when selecting nominees.
  
- TANF programs are encouraged to show partnerships with community providers or other local stakeholders that can help them implement their proposed approaches.

# Important Dates

- Nomination submissions are due on **March 17, 2015 at 11:59 p.m. EDT.**
- Selection notification will occur at the end of **March 2015/early April 2015.**
- TA Coach site visits will occur in **April/May 2015.**
- First National Policy Academy meeting will occur in Washington, D.C., in **June 2015.**

# Questions and Answers

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# THANK YOU!

- Visit the PeerTA Web site at:  
<https://peerta.acf.hhs.gov/> for answers to any questions not responded to on today's webinar.
  
- For additional inquiries about the Academy, contact:
  - ▣ Lisa Washington-Thomas:  
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  - ▣ Damon Waters:  
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