



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

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Agenda

- Overview (HHS, ACF, OFA)
- TANF
 - Welfare Reform
 - Purpose
 - Requirements (for individuals and states)
- Challenges
- State and Local Point of View



Overview



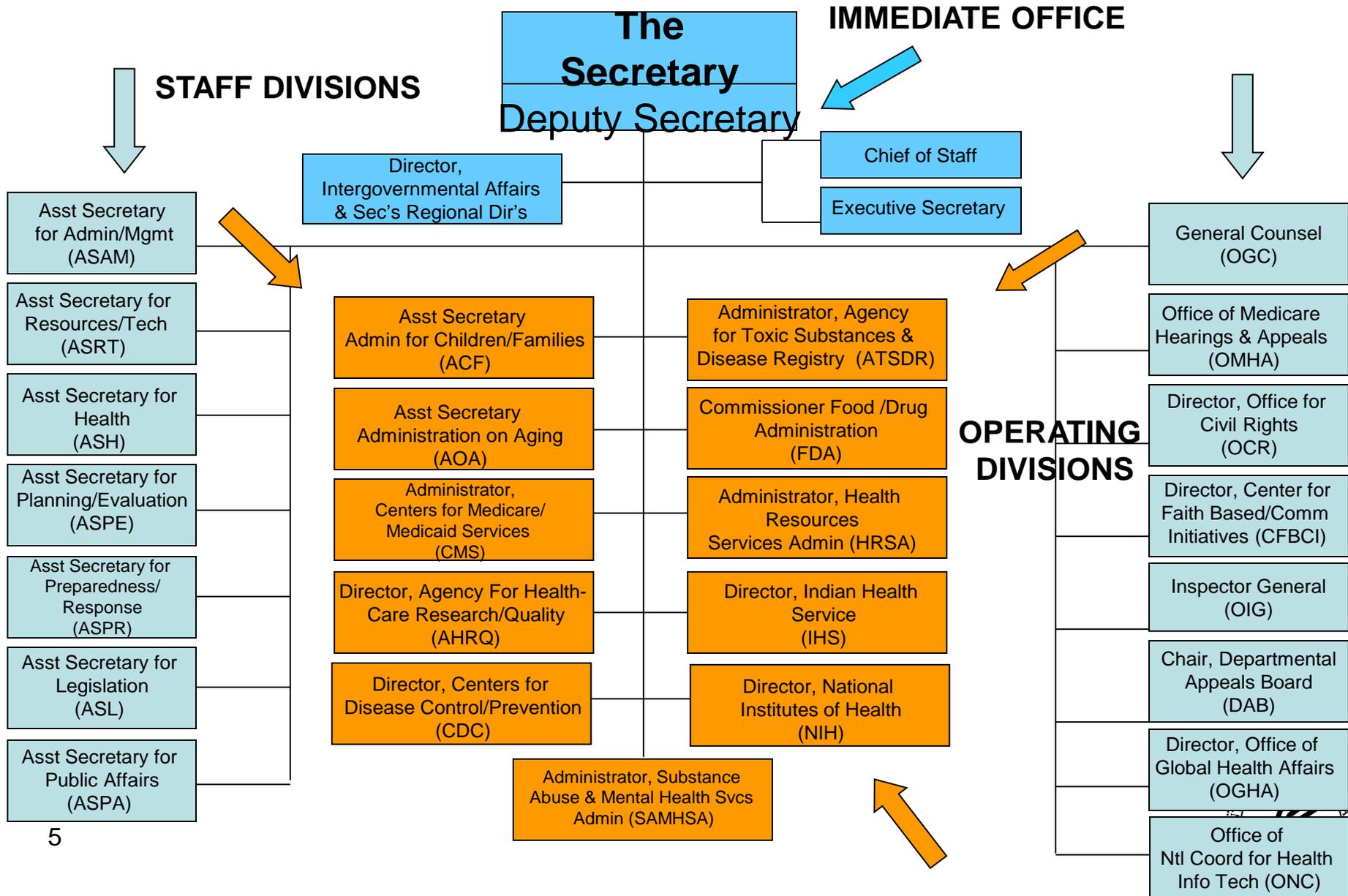
Who we are....



Mission and Vision



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



TANF

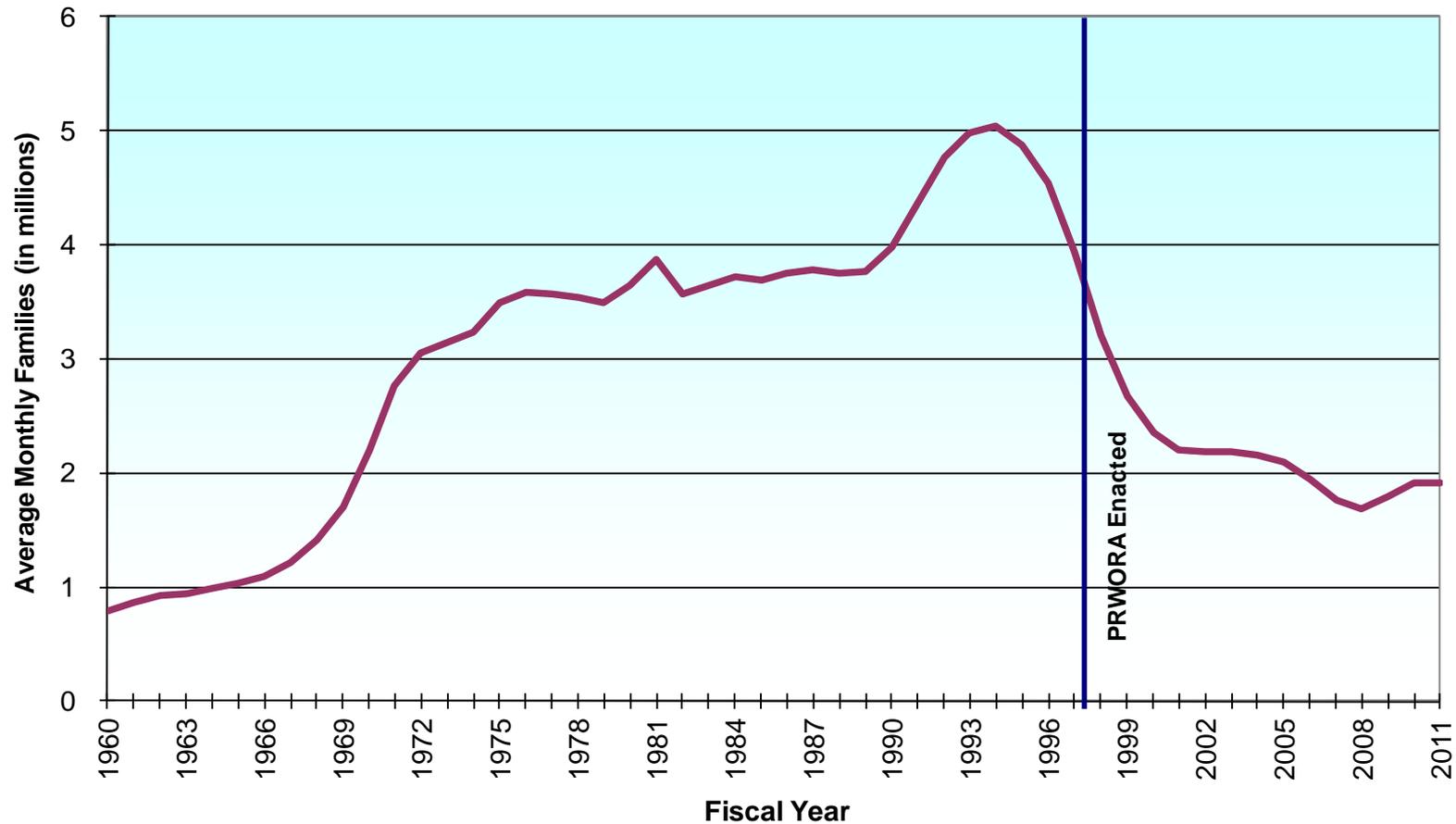


Welfare Reform

- In 1996, Congress created the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.
- TANF replaced previous programs, including AFDC- Aid to Families with Dependent Children.
- The new legislation also resulted in a \$16.5 billion a year block grant program.
- States and Territories were given wide flexibility to develop and implement their own assistance programs, subject to restrictions such as:
 - Requirements to meet minimum levels of participation in work or work-related activities; and
 - Federal time limits on assistance



TANF Caseloads, AFDC/TANF and SSP Families FY 1960 – FY 2011



TANF Program Purpose

Jurisdictions can use TANF funds for cash assistance programs and other expenditures reasonably calculated to accomplish at least one of the four statutory TANF purposes.

- (1) Provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives
- (2) End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work and marriage
- (3) Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies
- (4) Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families



TANF Rules: Individuals

- **Eligibility criteria (income, family make-up, citizenship status)**
- **Time limits**
- **Work Requirements**
- **Child support and paternity cooperation**
- **Other**

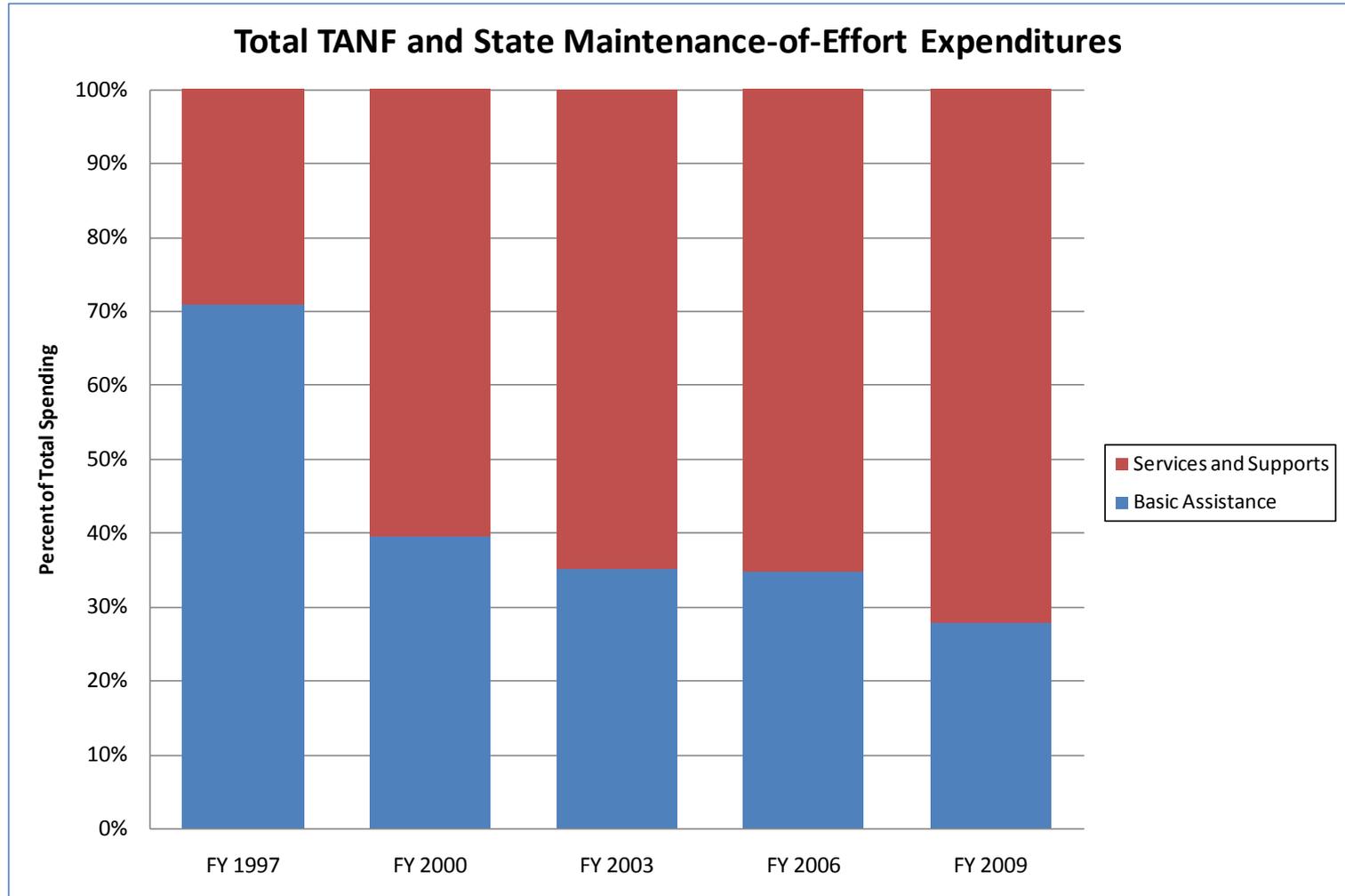


TANF Rules: States

- Federal time limit of 60 months
- State MOE
- Types of services



TANF Program Benefits and Services



Current Challenges for TANF

- Federal role in Block Grant program
- Changes in economic climate
- 17 states with high population growth and low historic welfare expenditures that receive TANF supplemental funds
- New state legislation around drug testing and immigration
- EBT rules
- Implementation of new IM



STATE and LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

