



WELFARE PEER TA NETWORK ROUNDTABLE
Collaboration Across Systems:
Issues of Recovery and Ex Offenders



Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys
Baltimore, Maryland
September 14-15, 2005

AGENDA

September 14, 2005

9:00 – 10:00 AM **Registration**

10:00 – 10:30 AM **Welcome and Introductions**

*David Lett, Regional Administrator, Administration for Children and Families,
Department of Health and Human Services, Region III*

Hon. Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary, Department of Human Resources

*Hon. James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D., Secretary, Department of Labor, Licensing and
Regulation*

*Hon. Mary L. Livers, Ph.D., Deputy Secretary, Operations, Department of Public Safety
and Correctional Services*

Kevin McGuire, Executive Director, Department of Human Resources

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Federal Project Officer, Welfare Peer TA Network

10:30 – 10:45 AM **Disaster Relief Update**

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Federal Project Officer, Welfare Peer TA Network

10:45 – 11:00 AM **Warm-Up Exercise**

Each County team will be asked to caucus for a few minutes and articulate the big question that they would like addressed by the Roundtable and their region's desired outcome from the program.

11:00 – 12:00 PM **Setting the Context**

*David Lett, Regional Administrator, Administration for Children and Families,
Department of Health and Human Services, Region III*

Hon. Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary, Department of Human Resources

*Hon. James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D., Secretary, Department of Labor, Licensing and
Regulation*

*Mary L. Livers, Ph.D., Deputy Secretary for Operations, Department of Public Safety and
Correctional Services*

Kevin McGuire, Executive Director, Department of Human Resources

Many TANF participants and their families are deeply affected by issues related to substance abuse and incarceration and the overarching problem of dealing with inter-related jurisdictional agencies. In this introductory session, senior officials from some of the TANF partners will share their vision as to why collaboration and joint planning is both important and appropriate. The kickoff speaker will be the Regional Administrator who will provide a federal vision for looking at the issue of collaboration across systems.

12:00 – 1:30 PM

Special Presentation: Through Another Lens

*Steven Williams, Warden, Dorchester County Department of Correction
Marian Bland, Clinical Director, Division of Special Needs Populations, Maryland
Department of Health & Mental Hygiene*

Warden Williams will share his epiphany and evolution as a Warden as he changed his view regarding the role that penal institutions can play collaboratively in helping offenders become self-sufficient members of the workforce. Ms. Bland will speak about the role that the TAMAR project has had in helping women with substance abuse and violence histories to re-integrate into society through a combination of innovative programs and housing strategies.

1:30 – 1:35 PM

Stretch Break

1:35 – 2:15 PM

From Addiction to Recovery to Life in the Community

2:15 – 2:30 (Break)

Sidney Shankman, M.D., President, Second Genesis, Inc.

2:30 – 3:30 PM

Taunya Lowe, Director, Department of Health and Human Services, DeKalb Technical College, Atlanta, GA

The session will focus on understanding the science of and the differences among substance use, substance abuse and substance use disorder. The goal of this session will be to help participants understand not just what addiction is, what treatment does but also how to harness the energy associated with recovery in order to move TANF participants in recovery to self sufficiency.

3:30 – 4:45 PM

County Best Practices in Collaboration

*Terri Jackson, Assistant Director for Family Investment for Somerset County
Ellen Payne , Assistant Director for Family Investment for Worcester County
Joe Rando, Assistant Director for Work Opportunities for Wicomico County
Tracey Paliath, Esq., Assistant Director, Family Investment, Baltimore City Department of Social Services
Mark Millspaugh, Deputy Assistant Director, Family Investment, Baltimore City Department of Social Services*

In this session, participants from two Maryland Counties will describe their work in developing an innovative approach to inter-agency and cross-system collaboration.

4:45 – 5:00 PM

Session Wrap-Up

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Federal Project Officer, Welfare Peer TA Network

September 15, 2005

8:00 – 9:00 AM **County Networking Session**

9:00 – 10:00 AM **Family Engagement: A Key to Success**

Arlene Lee, Executive Director, Governor's Office for Children

Ms. Lee will apply her extensive background in addressing the problems of children of offenders and ex-offenders coupled with her present experience in the Governor's Office for Children in order to address the issue of family engagement and its importance in developing both individual and family self-sufficiency.

10:00 – 10:45 AM **Making the Best Use of Workforce Development**

Robert G. "B.J." Corbin, Executive Director, Lower Shore Workforce Alliance

Mr. Corbin will address how one-stop centers can and should collaborate with TANF, treatment and ex-offender partners in order to achieve mutual goals of workforce participation.

10:45 – 11:00 AM **Break**

11:00 – 12:00 Noon **Treatment as a Work Experience (Part I)**

Scott Wetzler, Ph.D., Vice Chairman and Chief, Division of Psychology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York City

Taunya Lowe, Director, Department of Health and Human Services, DeKalb Technical College, Atlanta, GA

Catherine Martens, Executive Director, Second Genesis, Inc.

Panelists will explore how TANF programs can collaborate with substance abuse treatment services in order to better integrate vocational training and family support into the treatment continuum. Special emphasis will be placed on ways to make activities in the treatment continuum "countable" for TANF participation purposes.

12:00 – 1:30 PM **Lunch**

1:30 – 2:30 PM **Treatment as a Work Experience (Part II)**

(Break at 2:30 PM)

2:30 – 2:45 PM **Break**

2:45 – 4:00 PM **Faculty Roundtable: Closing the Loop and Merging the Silos**

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Federal Project Officer, Welfare Peer TA Network

Kevin McGuire, Executive Director, Maryland Department of Human Resources

The day's faculty will come together in order to answer any questions that have arisen during the course of the day.

4:00 – 4:30 PM **Closing Remarks**

Kevin McGuire, Executive Director, Maryland Department of Human Resources

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Federal Project Officer, Welfare Peer TA Network