



Office of Family Assistance Region IX

2012 Innovations in Action Forum

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Family Self-Sufficiency

Keys to Success



- Build strong partnerships with national, regional, and local stakeholders
- Leverage private and public funding streams
- Identify target populations and build programs aligned with specific populations and specific funding streams
- Operate programs within specific fiscal and political confines

SNAP Employment and Training and Work Supplementation Program



- The SNAP E&T program was established as part of the Food Security Act of 1985 to help recipients meet employment requirements, and to gain the skills, training, or experience to increase their ability to obtain regular employment
- The program is due for reauthorization in 2012 as part of the nutrition title of the federal “Farm Bill”
- Administered by local organizations such as community colleges, community-based organizations, and one-stop career centers authorized under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- If states chose to have an E&T program, they can use this money to provide employment and training to SNAP recipients who do not get TANF cash aid

Oregon JOBS Plus



- JOBS Plus is a subsidized work program that provides real jobs for TANF clients
- TANF clients can be placed with an employer (private-for-profit, nonprofit, or governmental) for up to 6 months
- Instead of receiving TANF and SNAP benefits, the client receives a paycheck from the employer and the employer is reimbursed for wages and payroll taxes

On the Job Training



- On the job training means training in the public or private sector that is given to a paid employee while he or she is engaged in productive work and that provides knowledge and skills essential to the full and adequate performance of the job
- The purpose of OJT is to enhance the likelihood that an employer will make a commitment to hire a TANF recipient with significant barriers to employment, after successful completion of a training program

Washington State OJT Program



- The Employment Security Department offers on-the-job training to eligible individuals through two federally funded programs: the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and WorkFirst (welfare-to-work)

Innovative Practices



- Public/Private Partnerships
- Targeted programming
- Leveraging Federal, state, and local funding
- Place-based strategies

Platform to Employment (P2E)



- Platform to Employment is a public-private partnership giving businesses a risk-free opportunity to evaluate and consider hiring 99ers during an 8 week work experience program. During the 8 weeks, wages are subsidized with private investment funds and workers are placed on the payroll of The WorkPlace.

JobBoost Subsidized Employment Program



- JobBoost targets counties with high unemployment rates and high numbers of TANF eligible individuals
- JobBoost is a public/private partnership and strong employer engagement
- Created for 34 counties with the highest unemployment rates and the highest number of individuals at or below 200% of the Federal poverty level
- Types of job placements include manufacturing, educational services, retail, animal care and rescue, warehouse distribution and clerical work

Nashville Career Advancement Center



- The Nashville Career Advancement Center (NCAC) coordinates employment and training services for the Middle Tennessee Career Center (Local Workforce Investment Area 9). NCAC provides a comprehensive network of career, employment, educational, and training resources for employers, employees, and job seekers in Davidson, Rutherford, Trousdale, and Wilson counties
- NCAC uses Work Incentive Grant (WIG) funds, through the Career Access Network (CAN,) to improve employment and training services to customers with disabilities who have been referred to the Center through the -WIA, Welfare-to-Work, TANF and Dislocated Worker programs.



Place-Based Strategies- Opportunity Chicago

- The Opportunity Chicago Initiative was an innovative place-based initiative created to help 5,000 low-income, often public housing residents prepare for and find employment
- Opportunity Chicago was an innovative collaboration between private and public partners including The Partnership for New Communities (PNC), the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), and the Department of Family and Support Services
- Opportunity Chicago raised and expended more than \$27 million from a combination of public and private sources



St. Lawrence County One-Stop Career Center

- The St. Lawrence County One Stop uses multiple streams of funding, including WIA funds, State TANF funds, and local county tax dollars, to support its subsidized employment program for low-income youth and adults
- The County subsidizes 100% of wages for TANF and Safety-net MOE (SN-MOE) adults for a period of 3 months, and 100% of wages for SN-Non-MOE adults for a period of 1 month
- Funding for TANF participants' subsidized employment positions comes from FFFS (Flexible Fund for Family Services - State TANF funds) and SN-MOE from St Lawrence County tax dollars

Additional Opportunities



- Paid Work Experience
- Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- HUD Section 3 Grantees

Additional Resources



To request technical assistance from the Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network visit: <https://peerta.acf.hhs.gov/>