

Maximizing Multiple Funding Streams To Improve Employment Outcomes

- 1) **Many people who need jobs also need additional assistance prior to getting jobs (for example, renewing certification, car repair, etc.). How are barriers like these addressed to improve hiring potential?**

Connecticut Department of Labor: Participants in the Jobs First Employment Services program receive support services such as case management to help them resolve barriers, child care assistance, transportation assistance, job-readiness training, adult basic education and/or English as a Second Language (ESL) services, and some may qualify for vocational education.

- 2) **Can Jobs First Employment Services (JFES)/STEP UP subsidy dollars be used to pay employees of entrepreneur/startup businesses?**

Connecticut Department of Labor: No.

- 3) **What is the total Jobs First caseload? What percentage of the Jobs First caseload is served through this integrated strategy?**

Connecticut Department of Labor: In October 2012, there were 17,204 families receiving cash assistance. 7,438 families are mandated to participate in JFES. 9,766 families are exempt from participation in employment services.

- 4) **How do the Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) in Connecticut deal with performance measures in the Jobs First program, especially if they don't necessarily lead to a permanent job?**

Connecticut Department of Labor: The WIBs administer services for JFES under the state-funded JFES contract, but not all JFES participants are Workforce Investment Act (WIA) certified. Only the JFES participants who are WIA certified factor into the WIA performance measures.

- 5) **Can you please provide examples of soft skills that should be provided within a subsidized employment program?**

MDRC: The soft skills that are typically taught in transitional jobs programs include punctuality, teamwork, appropriate dress, and the ability to take supervision and accept criticism.

- 6) **Do you know of any subsidized employment or transitional jobs initiatives to assist re-entry clients?**

MDRC: There are many transitional jobs programs that target former prisoners. I suggest you look at the Web site of the National Transitional Jobs Network (<http://www.heartlandalliance.org/ntjn/>) for further information.

***Maximizing Multiple Funding Streams
To Improve Employment Outcomes***

- 7) **Do you know of any subsidized employment or transitional jobs initiatives to assist re-entry clients?**

ICF International: Information about the Department of Labor's Enhanced Transitional Jobs program is available at <http://www.doleta.gov/reports/etjd.cfm>. Information about the Department of Health and Human Services' Subsidized and Transitional Employment Demonstration (STED) study is available at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/research/project/subsidized-and-transitional-employment-demonstration-sted-2010-2017>.