



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

**OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE**  
An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

# **2017 Linking TANF Families to Employment and Economic Opportunities Meeting**

# **Reducing Poverty Through Two-Parent Family Engagement**

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## Oregon's Approach to Two-Parent Families

- Our efforts to engage families involves forming meaningful connections that allow families to achieve self-defined goals.



## Reducing Poverty Through Family Engagement

- Oregon recognizes the participant as the expert in their own lives. Only they know their strengths, barriers, and supports.
- Goal-setting is individual and participants have equal opportunities for success.



# Reducing Poverty Through Economic Stability

- Reducing Employment Impact
  - Employment Readiness
  - Support Services for Employment
  - Higher Exit Limit
  - Employment Incentive Payments and Reduced Childcare Costs
  - Ongoing Family Coaching



## Reducing Poverty Through Program Integrity

- Revised Policy to Support Two-Parent Families
  - Eliminated Deprivation
  - Unique Living Situations
  - Time Limits
  - Plan Participation



## Reducing Poverty Through Collaborative Partnerships

- Family Support & Connections
- Summer Youth Employment Program
- JOBS Plus
- Work Experience
- Apprenticeship Grants



# Reducing Poverty Through Professional Development

- Family Engagement Model
  - Specialized Training for Staff
  - Healthy Relationship Skills
  - Goal Setting for Strengths and Barriers



## Jobs Participation Incentive

- Currently 11,287 two-parent families employed 35 average hours per week
  - Receive \$10 food benefit for continued employment
  - Provides opportunity to engage families





## Service Delivery Innovations

- Employment and Training Initiative
  - Local Support Service Projects
  - Community-based Involvement
  - Advocate Community
- Additional Program Funding
  - Housing Stabilization, Food Bank, Child Welfare



## Oregon: A New Direction

- To provide a safety net, family stability and a connection to careers that guide Oregonians out of poverty.

