



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance

The Wisdom in the Room

Regions IX and X State TANF Technical Assistance Meeting

August 29-30, 2024 • Hilton Portland Downtown Hotel • Portland, Oregon



Session #4: Rethinking Public Benefits to Better Meet Community Needs

August 29, 2024

3:20-4:45 PM



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Session Objectives

- Explore and discuss implications for changing TANF assistance and benefit designs.
- Identify examples of jurisdictions that have successfully navigated changes to assistance and benefits.
- Discuss potential challenges and unintended consequences of making changes to assistance and benefits.



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Session Grounding

When you think about some of the changes that you could make to TANF benefits and assistance in your jurisdiction, what comes to mind? For example, child support pass-throughs, minimum wage increases, and eligibility for other means-tested programs.



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Session Grounding cont.

Which of these might negatively affect families' benefits from other programs, if not navigated carefully? Or which might have other potential unintended consequences for families?



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Conversation with Thought Partner

Shannon Rohall

Bureau Chief

Hawaii Department of Human Services



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Peer Sharing in Small Groups

Which two stations interest you most?

- Spend the first 10 minutes at the ***first*** station on your list
- Spend the next 10 minutes at the ***second*** station on your list



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Station #1 Discussion Prompts

- How have you or could you approach this change to benefits?
- What has or could be a barrier to adjusting to this change in benefits?
- How could this benefit help the families you serve?



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Station #2 Discussion Prompts

- What would you add? Is there anything missing?
- What questions do you have?



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Full Group Report Out

- What rose to the top for you?
- What is a highlight you are taking from this session?
- Were there any a-ha moments?
- What questions do you still have?