



OFA Regions V-VIII State Technical Assistance Meeting

July 9–11, 2024 • Westin Denver Downtown • Denver, CO

Reimagining TANF Programs through the Lens of Program Participants

Reflection and Planning Guide





General reflections

Reflect on the ideas you've heard over the past two days that piqued your interest. What were they? Why were these interesting to you?

Reflect on the opportunities and challenges your program currently has. What have you heard or learned about that might help your program?

In what areas of your program might participant input help your program improve? Why would participant input be especially valuable for those?

Thinking about next steps

What are three areas where you would like to improve your program? Be as specific as possible.

Why is it important to improve those areas? What might be different for families and staff if you make these improvements?

In what ways might families or participants help you improve these areas? Why would their perspectives be valuable?

As you think about improving these areas and getting input from families, what questions come up for you? What information do you want or need to help you start to work towards these improvements?

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Develop a plan of action

What is an important change you would like to make or explore further? What is something you would like to be different in your program one year from now?

What are at least two ways that families' perspectives can help you make this change? What would you want to learn from them?

What approaches might you use to gather input from families, given this and given what you want to learn from them?

Reflect on your program's experience in getting and using input from families, families' trust in your program, and your program's readiness to follow through on the feedback and ideas families share.

What do you need to help you make progress? What do you need to do personally, and what do you need from others?

Consider the change you want to make and how you might work with families to inform the change.

What I need to do:

What I need from others:



What steps will you take to make progress towards this change and gathering input from families?
(List at least three concrete steps.)

How will you know you are making progress? (Consider 2-3 measurable descriptors of progress.)

What might get in the way of you making progress towards your plan? (Consider internal and external factors.)

How will you respond if these factors get in your way, so that you continue to make progress?
