

Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Welcome to ACF's Region X

“Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports”

Webinar

Thursday, December 12, 2013; 2 p.m. EST



Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Welcome and Introductions:

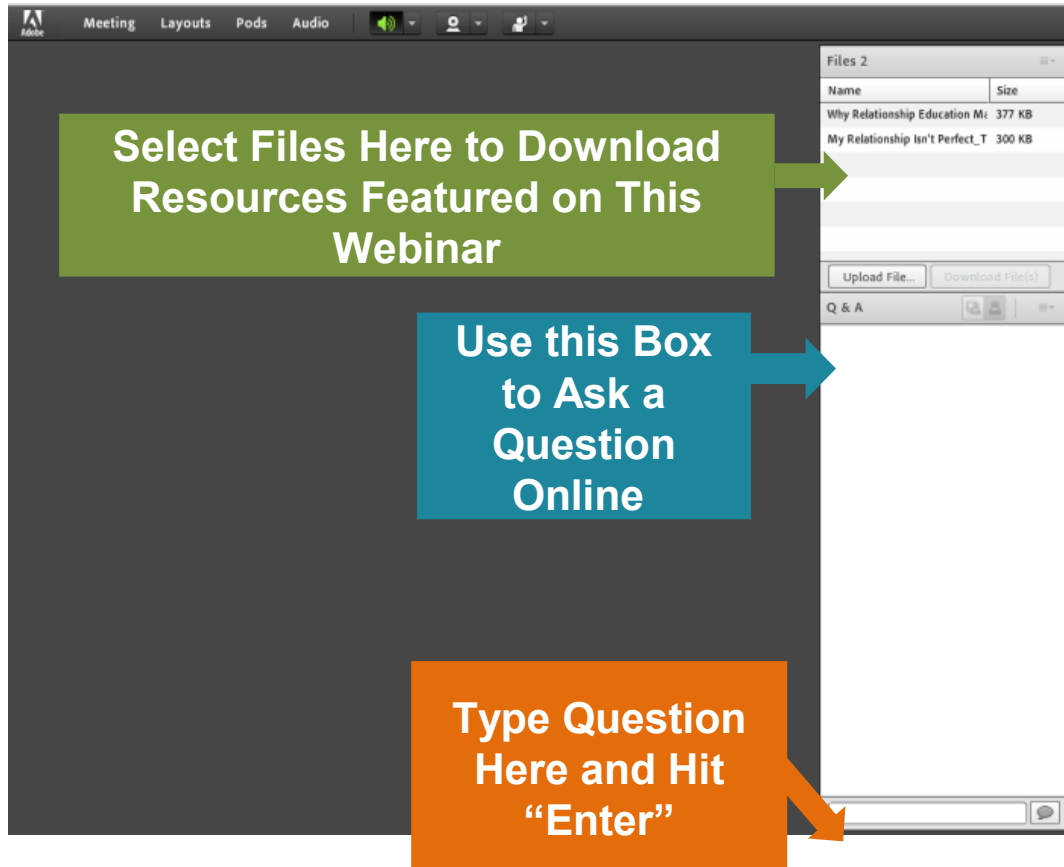
Frank Shields

Regional Program Manager

ACF Region X



Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting window with a dark background. On the right side, there is a 'Files 2' panel with a table of files. Below the table are 'Upload File...' and 'Download File(s)' buttons. At the bottom right, there is a 'Q & A' section with a text input field and a 'send question' button. Three colored callout boxes with arrows point to these features:

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Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Moderator:

Lesley Smith

Project Manager

ICF International



Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Earl Johnson

Director

Office of Family Assistance

Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Angelisa Young, MPA

Manager of the First Response Unit

&

Artish Jacobs, MPA, MHR

Chief of Enforcement

District of Columbia

Office of the Attorney General

Child Support Services Division



District of Columbia Child Support, Supporting Families



Angelisa Young, MPA
Manager of the First Response Unit
&
Artish Jacobs, MPA, MHR.
Chief of Enforcement
Office of the Attorney General
Child Support Services Division



Look What Child Support has to Offer

First Response Unit

Community Outreach

\$150 Pass-Through

Incarcerated Parents and Returning Citizens

The Child Support Mobile Office Van

Paternity Establishment Initiative

Free Genetic Testing

Non-Custodial Parent Employment Initiatives

Fresh Start Program





First Response Unit

Provides speedy, effective services to customers who visit the Child Support Services waiting room

Divided into three teams in order to provide efficient services for customers.

Face - to - Face --- Written Correspondence ---Customer Service Team.



Community Outreach



- Bring CSSD to the community
- Very Important Component
- Customer Centered
- Nontraditional

150 PASS-Through

In addition to **TANF** benefits a family may be eligible to receive up to **\$150** a month of a child support payment.



INCARCERATED PARENTS AND RETURNING CITIZENS

婚 District of Columbia enacted a law entitled “Notice at Sentencing of Child Support Modification”. The law also provides assistance to the non-custodial parents once they are released from prison. If CSSD finds that the NCP’s imprisonment results in a change in financial circumstances, CSSD can file a motion with the Court to reduce or suspend the NCP’s support order. The Court will then modify the order using the Guideline.



The Child Support Mobile Office Van



Child support staff go out into the community to provide the same child support services that can be received at the downtown office .

The mobile office Winnebago will serve people in the areas where they live rather than requiring them to come to the main office.

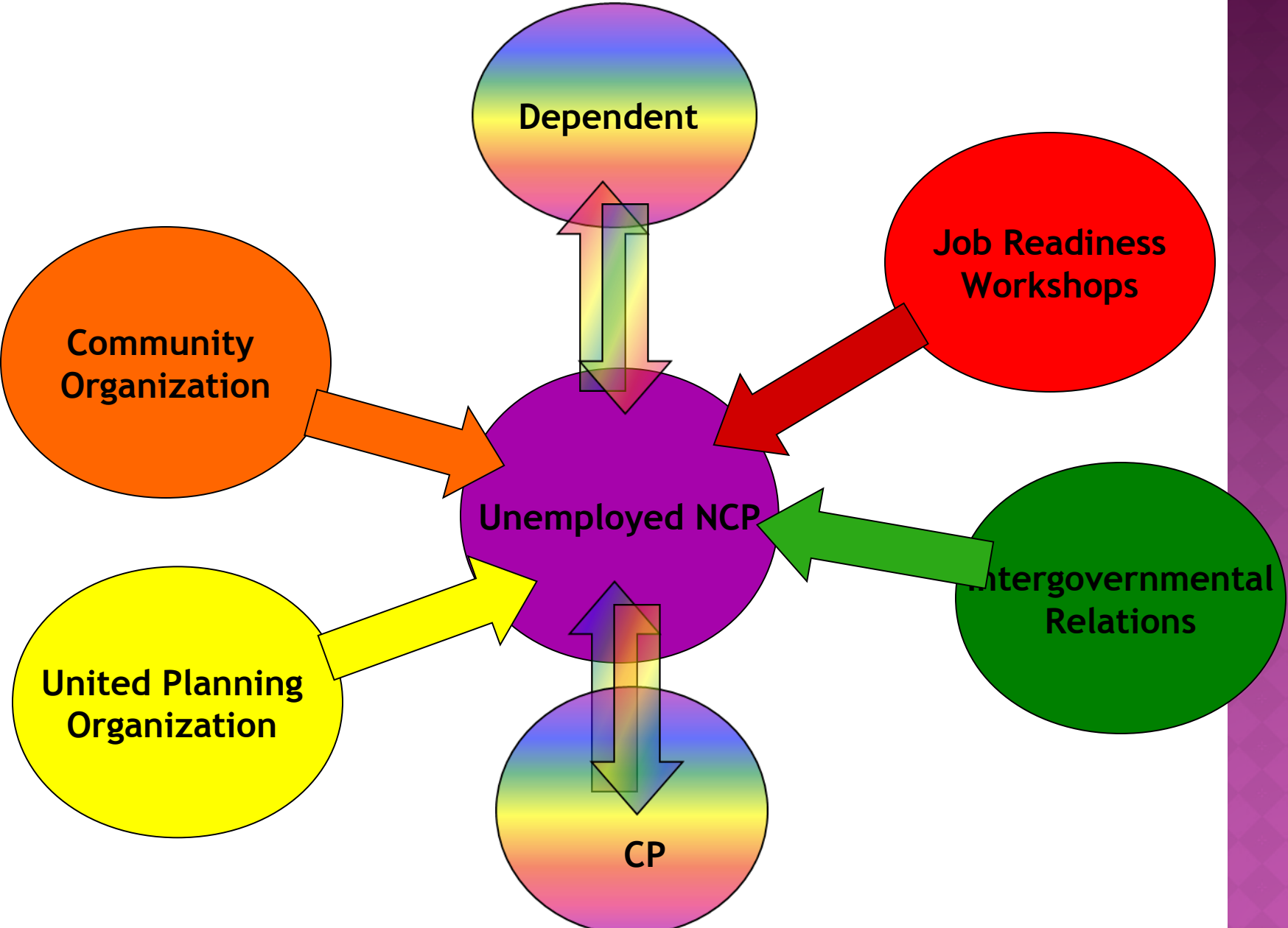
Paternity Establishment Initiative

Acknowledgement Of Paternity

FREE GENETIC TESTING



Non-Custodial Parent Employment Initiatives



FRESH START PROGRAM

What is the Fresh Start Program?

A program aimed at encouraging NCP's to pay current child support by offering forgiveness of TANF arrears in exchange for:

- 1) lump sum payments to current support or arrears only cases,
- 2) a series of timely, full payments to current support, and arrears only cases.

CASE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

• \$1000 in arrears

• No voluntary payments in 1 year

• Prior unsuccessful enforcement efforts

• No bad faith by NCP

• Valid address for NCP

• Valid address and payment distribution information for CP (unless owed to the Government)

CASE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

嬌 Case Types

- TANF Arrears Only case
- TANF & Non-TANF arrears only case
- Active Non-TANF current support case
with TANF arrears

DETERMINING ELIGIBLE NCP'S

婚 All NCP's that enroll must execute two forms: 1) Consent Agreement and 2) Affidavit and Consent To Access Credit Report.

- Factors Considered
 - Ownership of a home, car or other valuable asset
 - Liquid assets
 - Any periods of unemployment
 - Ability to work
 - Periods of incarceration

- The specialist may request additional documentation from the NCP to facilitate making a determination of eligibility.

PAYMENT/FORGIVENESS AGREEMENT MATRIX

Number of consecutive months in which the NCP makes timely and full payments to current support (TANF or Non-TANF)

Month/Forgiveness %

6/25%

12/50%

18/75%

24/100%

FRESH START PARTICIPANTS

媿	Total Participants	331
媿	Currently Active	24.17%
媿	Successfully Completed	18.43%
媿	Partially Successful	16.92%
媿	Failed	40.48%
媿	Monthly Average Enrollment	7 - 8

TOTALS AS OF SEPT. 2013

媿 Total Forgiveness of TANF Arrears ~ \$1,285,180.57

媿 Total Lump Sum/Monthly Collections ~ \$431,583.40

Grand Total = \$1,716,763.97

CHALLENGES IN THE PROGRAM

媏 Lack of Commitment

媏 Lost/Under Employment

媏 Unemployment

媏 Homelessness



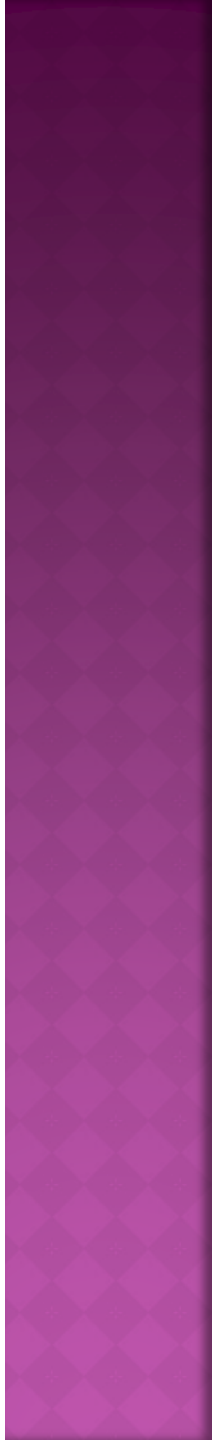
**COMING
FALL
2014**

**Intensive
Case Management Program**

**COMING
FALL
2015**

NCP TO WORK PROGRAM

Working To put Families First





Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Michael Hayes
Deputy for Family Initiatives

*Texas Attorney General –
Child Support Division*



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting Noncustodial Parents To Work

Michael Hayes, Deputy for Family Initiatives
Texas Attorney General – Child Support Division



Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

**7.3 Million
Poor Men**

**5 Million
Poor Men
With
Child Support
Cases**



Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

3.6 Million

**Poor Men Not Working In
The Previous Year**

3 Million

**Poor Men Not Working
In The Previous Year
With Child Support Cases**



Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

Big Themes:

- Recruitment was very difficult
- Equivocal outcomes
- It was about work



Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

Remember the Alamo!

(In other words, don't accept defeat)

- Child Support: Success = Collections
- Workforce: Success = Job entry and retention
- TANF: Success = leaving rolls



Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

NCP Choices: Enhanced employment services with sanctions for those who don't comply

- Partnership of OAG, Texas Workforce Commission and IV-D courts
- Funded with TANF and IV-D incentives
- Modeled after Texas' TANF employment and training program (Choices)



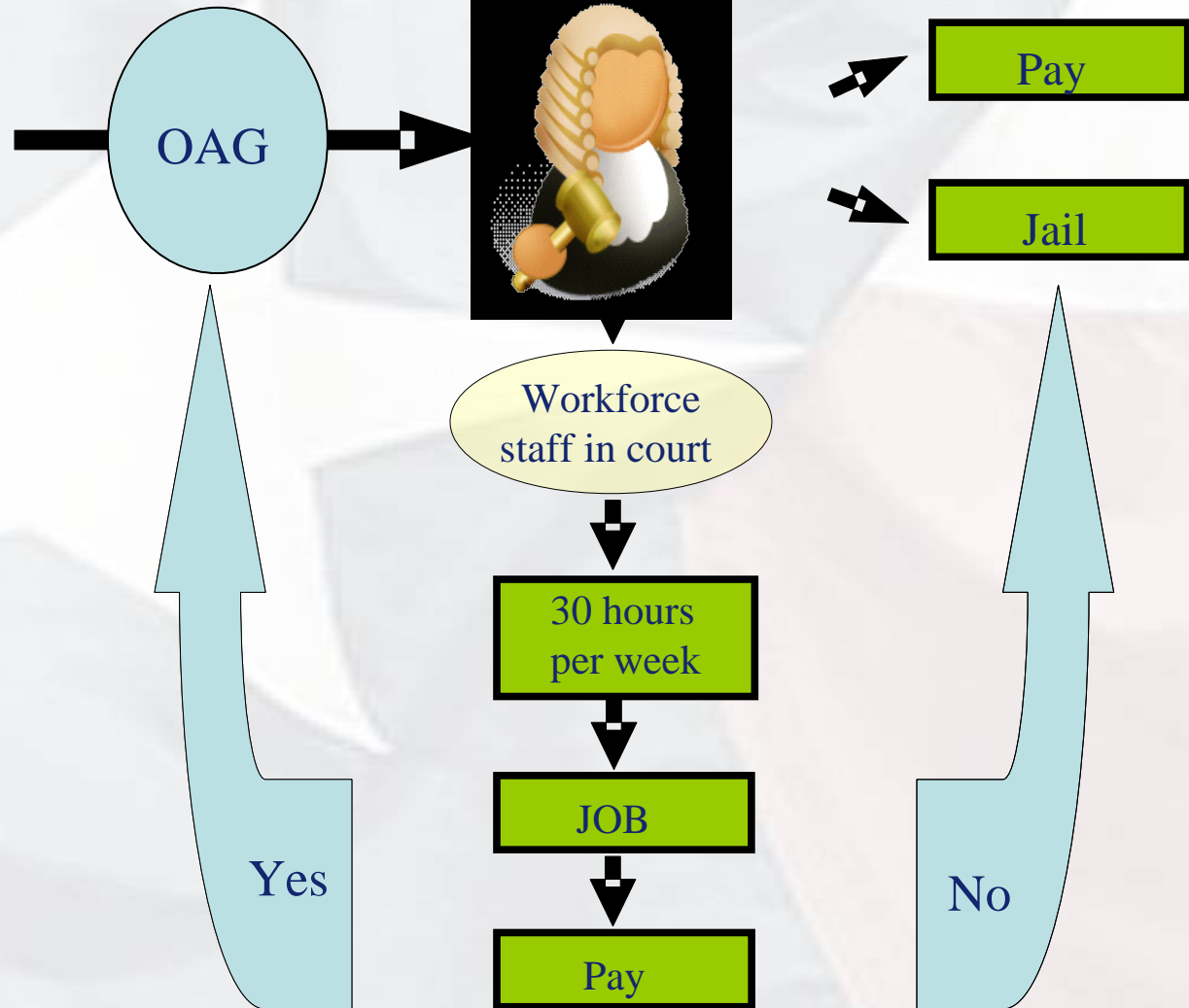
Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work



NCP

(TANF/Medicaid)

- 36 years old
- Ex-offender
- High school or less education
- No payment in previous 9 months
- \$30,000 in arrears





Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships Putting Men To Work

Program Integration

Child Support

- Identifies and preps cases
- Monitors payments and workforce reports
- Prepares legal actions as needed

Workforce

- Receives NCPs ordered in at court
- Provides services and monitors compliance
- Reports to OAG and courts

Courts

- Order participation in program
- Conduct compliance hearings
- Apply swift and certain consequences



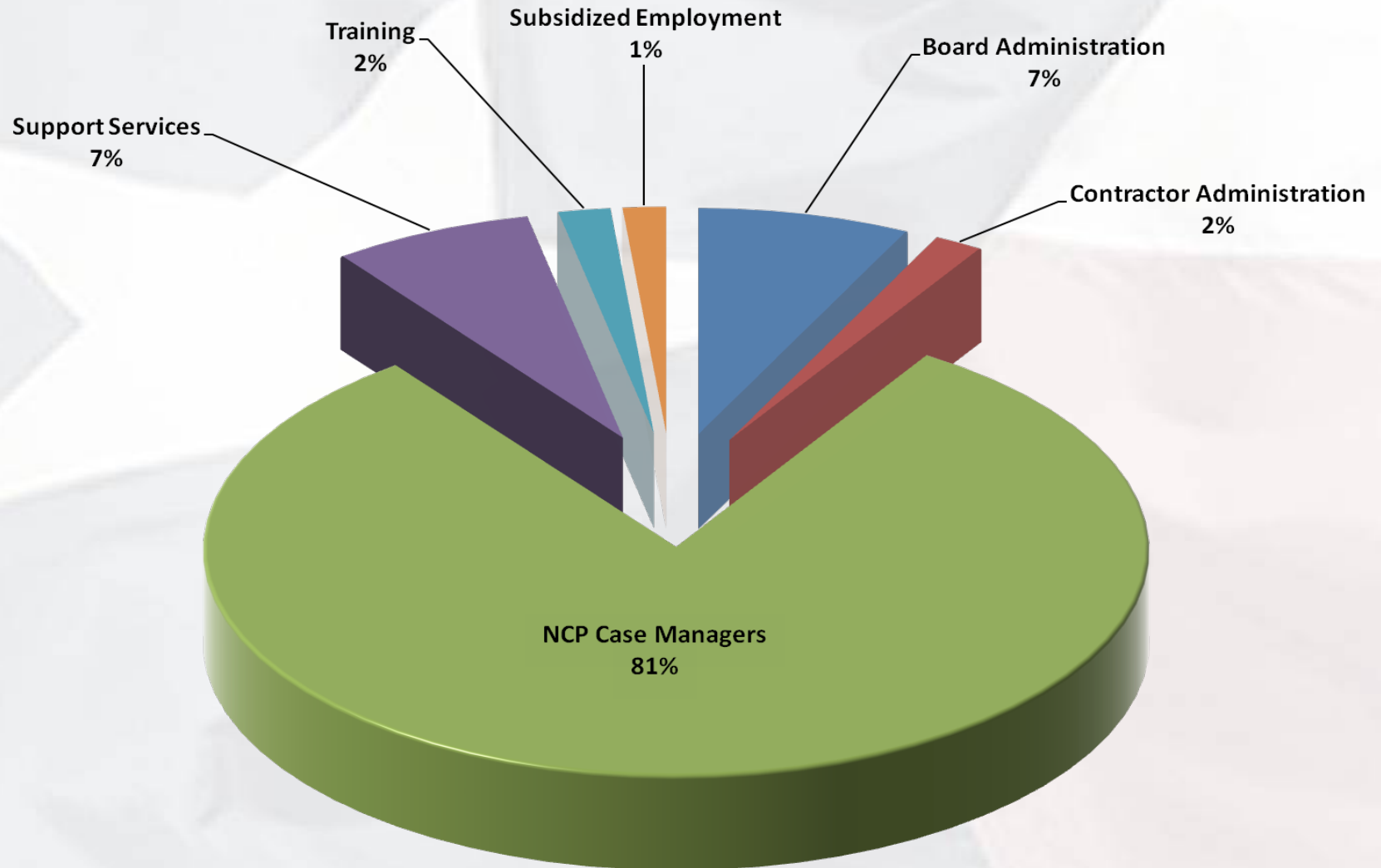
Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships Putting Men To Work

Key Program Elements

- Consequences
- Co-location
- Choices Services
 - Job referrals, job development,
 - Support services,
 - Short-term training,
 - Subsidized employment/work experience,
 - GED, ESL classes,
 - Retention and career advancement assistance
- Case management
- Communication

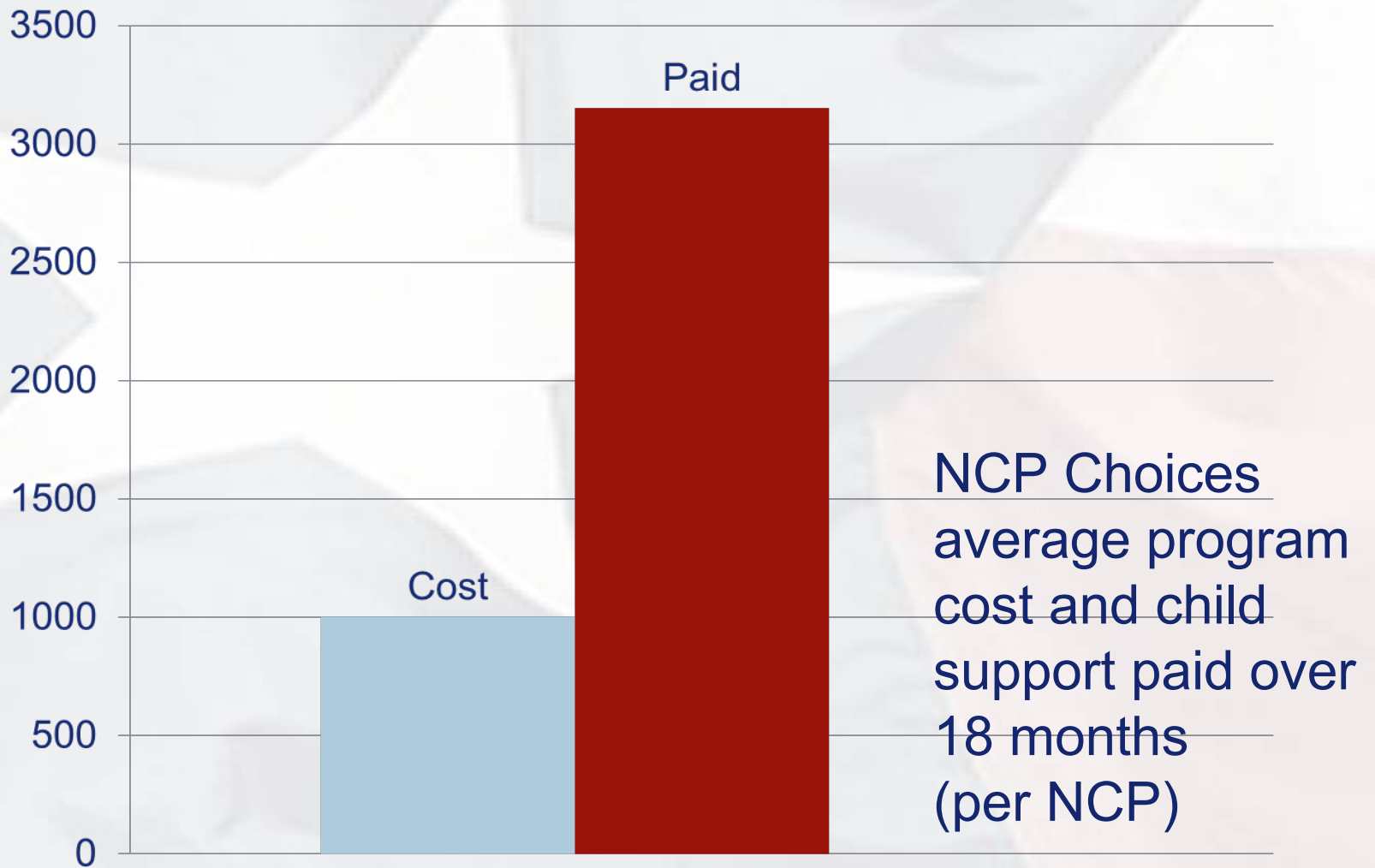


Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work





Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

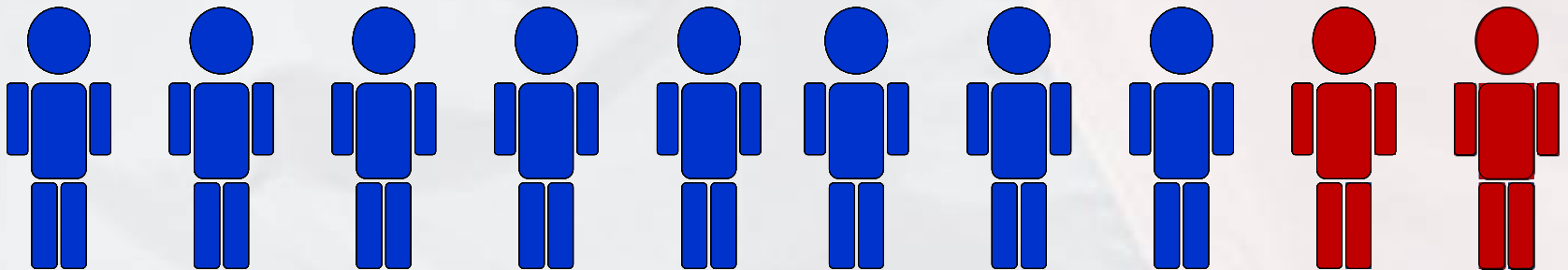




Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

NCP Choices participants

- Eight out of ten enter employment
- Average employment entry at eight weeks
- Seven out of ten meet six month retention





Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

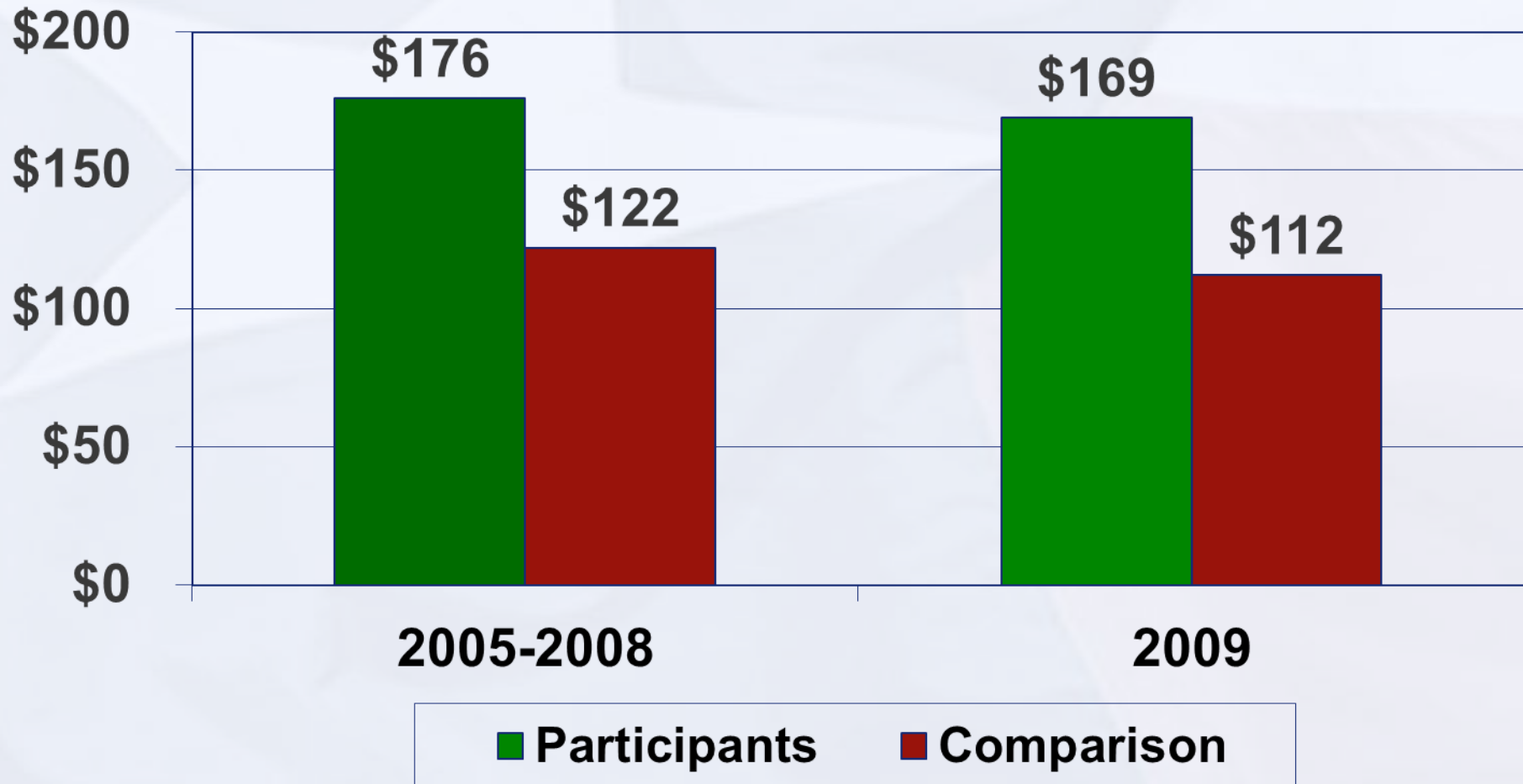
Average Quarterly Earnings – NCP Choices





Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

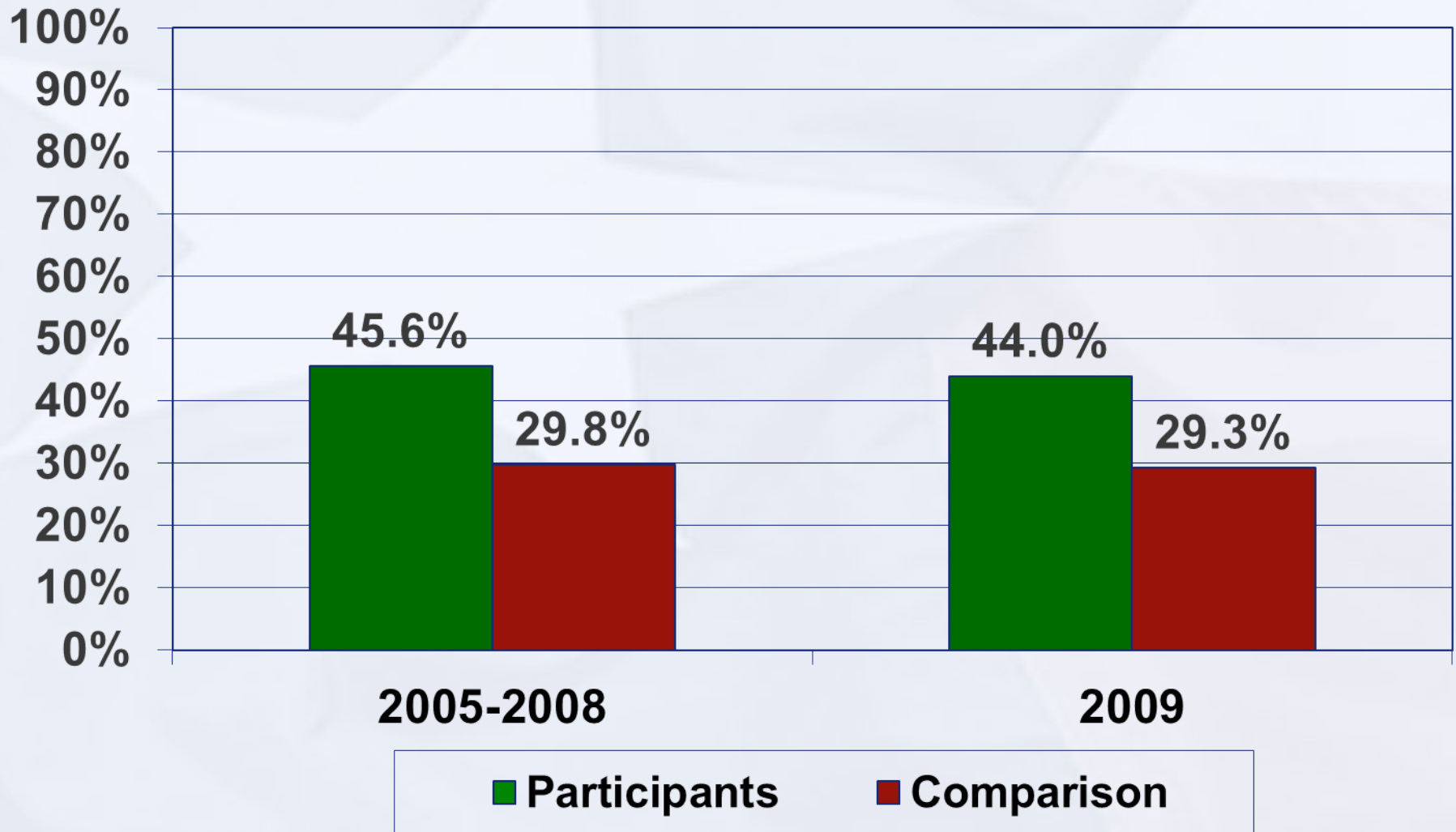
Average Monthly Collections - First Year





Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

Paid support 2 of 3 months - First Year





Less TANF Use by Custodial Parents Tied to NCP Choices Participants

Year 1

21%

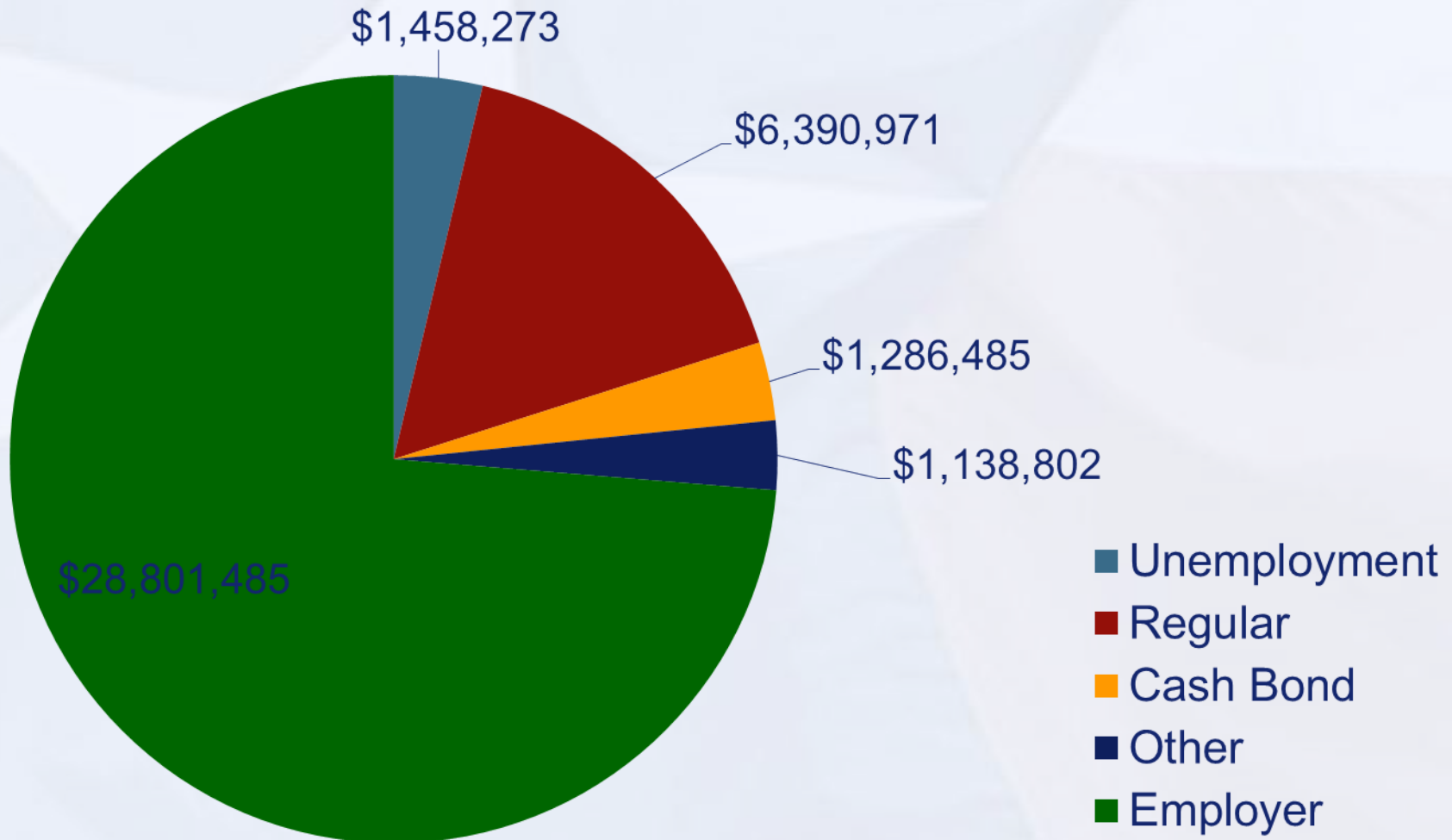
Years 2-4

29%



Child Support, Workforce, and TANF Partnerships: Putting NCPs to Work

Child Support Payments: FY 13 YTD (16,509 NCPs)



Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports



Ann Marie Winter

*Vice President, Specialized Programs & Policy
Gulf Coast Jewish Family &
Community Services*

Donald Shepherd

*Programs Director
WorkNet Pinellas, Inc. – Florida*



Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program

Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services



Strengthening TANF and Low-Income Families through Strategic Non-Custodial Supports

Ann Marie Winter, Vice President, Specialized Programs & Policy
Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services

Donald Shepherd, Programs Director
WorkNet Pinellas, Inc.



Who we are...

The Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program (NCPEP) assists unemployed and underemployed noncustodial parents who are not making their child support payments to:

- find employment
- make child support payments
- increase and motivate participants to increase their interaction with their children, and
- decrease dependency on TANF

Established in 1995 by the Florida Legislature with programs in Pinellas, and Hillsborough Counties in West Central Florida and in Miami since 2000.

NCPEP clients



- Non custodial parent
- Have children who are receiving or are eligible to receive assistance
- Court ordered into the Program or volunteers who meet all criteria such as TANF eligibility and court-ordered to participate
- Client base is predominantly male (80%)
- Equally divided between age groups of 20-30, 30-40 and 40-50
- Latinos represent 20%, Caucasians 15% and African Americans represent 65%
- In the last 3 years we have seen fewer 'never married' clients in the Program (30% vs 55%) and each of the other groups showed large increases (Divorced, Married or Separated, all in the 20% range)



What we do...

- Job development
- Supervised job search
- Job placement
- Case monitoring
- Educational assessment & Referrals
- Vocational assessment
- Counseling on responsible fatherhood
- Parenting training
- Financial literacy training
- Peer support group
- Contingency funds for:
 - transportation
 - work attire
 - vehicle maintenance
 - personal hygiene
- Short term trade/skills training: i.e. construction trades helpers, CN, etc.
- Support service referrals (mediation, substance abuse counseling, etc.)



As an One Stop partner...

As a partner agency within multiple One Stop systems under our tri-county service delivery, there are One Stop resources and support provided to the NCPEP program.

- Full access to the Employ Florida Marketplace or One Stop job bank
- Full access to the One Stop Service Tracking system (OSST) or case management MIS and read access to state HHS (DCF) MIS
- Ease of access to refer qualified candidates to Florida job openings, internal or external
- Access to WIB job fairs, One Stop hiring events or other employer events
- Access to One Stop workshops available as formal class or online services to job seekers
- Atlas or online electronic document management system
- Other One Stop resources like Federal Bonding program

Achievements



- Since inception, the program has successfully served 18,605 noncustodial parents statewide benefitting over 48,700 children since its inception and more than 7000 jobs.
- In FY 2012, All clients in the program made child support payments and returned more than 2 and half times the program costs. For every dollar spent operating the program, \$2.64 was returned to the States in the form of child support payments. That equates to \$1,087,369 dollars for the year. This has consistently been the case each year.
- Clients who complete the program continue to make child support payments.
- Strongly supported by the Florida Legislature, Workforce Boards, Judges and Hearing Masters in multiple Circuits, Department of Revenue Division of Child Support Enforcement.
- The program continues to be successful in both human terms and fiscal terms and promises to continue to be an asset to non custodial parents and their children, the criminal justice system, and the State.



Program Challenges

- Funding
- Access to EFM and Court databases
- The Economy and competition for jobs
- Unemployment Compensation



Contact Information

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www.gcjfcs.org/employment

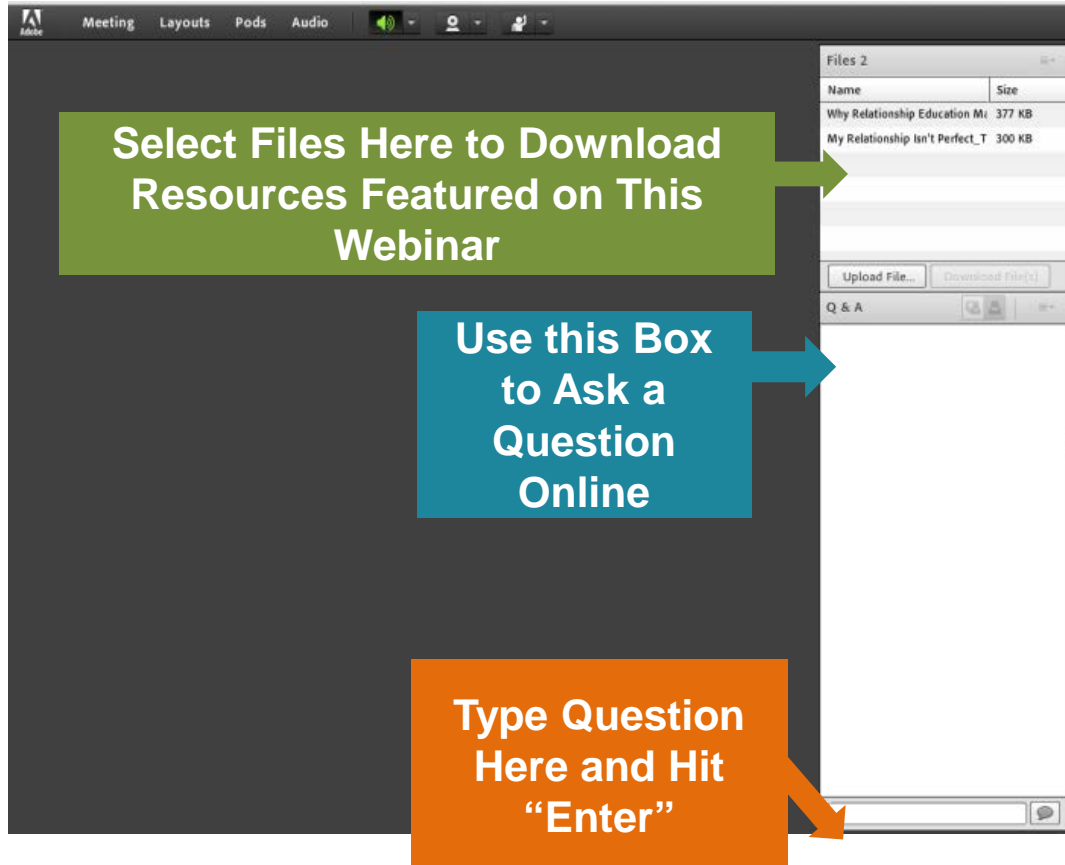


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Questions?

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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Thank You For Attending!