



OFA Regions V and VII TANF Technical Assistance Meeting

Innovations in TANF: Setting the
Stage for the Next 20 Years

June 22 – 24, 2016 | Kansas City, MO



Meeting Objectives

- Allow participants to engage with peers and experts on innovative strategies and collaborations to enhance TANF program performance and outcomes.
- Promote economic and social well-being for individuals, families, and communities.

Day 1

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Time

Session Description

11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Registration and lunch on your own

1:00 p.m.—1:15 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

- **Thomas Schindler**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region V
- **Gary Allen**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region VII

1:15 p.m.—3:15 p.m.

TANF in Perspective: Lessons from 20 Years and Looking Ahead

The 20th anniversary of TANF gives us an opportunity to look back but also to look forward to what we want TANF programs to look like in the future. Acting Assistant Secretary for Children and Families Mark Greenberg and Office of Family Assistance Acting Director Susan Golonka will reflect upon and lead a discussion on what has been learned in the past twenty years that can help inform new federal, state, and local efforts to improve outcomes for children and families.

Speakers:

- **Mark Greenberg**, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families
- **Susan Golonka**, Acting Director, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance

3:15 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Break

Time	Session Description
3:30 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	<p>Focused State Dialogue and Topical Discussion: Employment and Work Activities</p> <p><i>Helping TANF clients find and maintain work – and progress in their field of employment – is a key component of TANF programs at all levels. In this interactive session, we’ll facilitate an open dialogue about employment strategies that have been particularly successful at the state and local levels as well as the challenges that states have faced in connecting individuals to work and career pathways.</i></p> <p><u>Moderators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Schindler, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region V • Gary Allen, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region VII • Christine Quinn, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Region V
5:00 p.m.	<p>Day One Closing</p>

Day 2

Thursday, June 23, 2016

Time	Session Description
9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.	<p>Using Two-Generation Approaches to Break the Cycle of Poverty</p> <p><i>Two-generation approaches to serving low-income families combine comprehensive, career-focused employment and training opportunities for parents with educational and enrichment opportunities for their children. States have suggested a need for more targeted information and technical assistance around integrating two-generation approaches into their TANF programs. This session will provide an overview of the policy components of an intentional two-generation approach and offer tools and resources that may be applicable to TANF programs. Presenters will provide planning, policy, and implementation strategies learned from their own experience with two-generation programs.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Golonka, Acting Director, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloria Perez, President and CEO, Jeremiah Program, Minneapolis, Minnesota • Sharon McGroder, Program Director, Economic, Human Services & Workforce Division, Center for Best Practices, National Governors Association

Time	Session Description
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10:30 a.m.—10:45 a.m.

Break

10:45 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

TANF/WIOA Coordination

The inclusion of TANF as a required partner at the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) One-Stops can provide TANF recipients and other individuals with employment barriers improved access to comprehensive employment services and job-driven training. WIOA state plans have been submitted, including some combined plans that include TANF as a partner. The goal of this session is to hear more about what’s happening in states – challenges, early success stories, and lessons learned.

Moderators:

- **Gary Allen**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region VII
- **Christine Quinn**, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Region V

Speakers:

- **JaCinda L. Rainey**, Missouri Work Assistance Manager, Family Support Division, Missouri Department of Social Services
- **Yekaterina (Kate) Probert Fagundes**, Minnesota Family Investment Program/Diversionsary Work Program/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (MFIP/DWP/SNAP) Manager, Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, Minnesota
- **Patricia Brady**, Director of Workforce Development, Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, Minnesota

12:15 p.m.—1:30 p.m.

Lunch on your own

1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Integrating Lessons from Trauma and Executive Skills Literature and Research into TANF Programming

With the emergence of a growing body of evidence that links brain development to early childhood experiences, as well as research that suggests a strong link between stress, behavioral health and poverty, human service systems across the spectrum are seeking new ways to translate this knowledge into real-world practices. In this session, presenters will discuss efforts to use this research to inform their practice and set realistic and achievable goals for their customers to improve self-sufficiency outcomes. Speakers will discuss the literature around trauma-informed approaches and executive skills, and discuss how these concepts can be integrated into TANF case management and service delivery.

Moderator:

- **Jessica R. Kendall**, Senior Technical Specialist, ICF International

Speakers:

- **Susan Pinné**, Program Director, Trauma Smart, Crittenton Children’s Center, Kansas City, Missouri
- **Yekaterina (Kate) Probert Fagundes**, MFIP/DWP/SNAP Manager, Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, Minnesota

Time	Session Description
3:00 p.m.—3:15 p.m.	Break
3:15 p.m.—4:45 p.m.	<p>Focused State Dialogue and Topical Discussion: TANF and Transportation</p> <p><i>Any discussion about employment needs for our TANF client populations includes issues around transportation and child care. Our moderator for this session will serve as a resource person as well as a facilitator to create a dialogue around strategies to address the transportation needs of TANF families, especially in rural areas. Moderator Melissa McKenna will also share her own programmatic experience providing vehicles for low-income families.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator and Speaker:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melissa McKenna, Vehicles for Change
4:45 p.m.	Day Two Closing

Day 3

Friday, June 24, 2016

Time	Session Description
9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.	<p>One Year Closer to Ending Family Homelessness</p> <p><i>State and local TANF agencies have been gaining momentum in both conversation and practice around housing stability and family homelessness. In 2016, we are one year closer to the goal set out by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) to effectively end family homelessness by the year 2020. Also this year, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell sits as chair of USICH’s Council. This session will continue the conversation around allowable and innovative uses of TANF to address housing and supportive services for families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, with a focus on the state successes and challenges in addressing family homelessness and the benefit of state TANF agencies working directly with their state and local Continuums of Care.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nora Gilligan, Senior Associate, ICF International <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharon McDonald, Director for Families and Youth, National Alliance to End Homelessness • Laura Green Zeilinger, Director, Department of Human Services, Washington, District of Columbia
10:30 a.m.—10:45 a.m.	Break

Time	Session Description
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10:45 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Focused State Dialogue and Topical Discussion: TANF Challenges and Opportunities

In our final session, we want to hear from you about the direction you'd like to see the TANF program go in, both at the state and federal levels. What have you heard about this week that you might want to try in your state? What challenges do you face in making your TANF program what you hope it could be? What do you need from your federal partners? What do we all need to improve the lives of children and families as we move into the next 20 years of TANF?

Moderators:

- **Tom Schindler**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region V
- **Gary Allen**, TANF Regional Program Manager, Administration for Children and Families, Region VII

12:00 p.m.

Day Three Closing and Meeting Adjournment