

# Wyoming Department of Family Services and CLIMB

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# Wyoming's Need:

- Removing families from a cycle of dependency on public assistance.
- Moving families into self-sufficient employment.
- Addressing barriers through a comprehensive life skills program to lead to long term employment.

# Specific Goals to Address Needs:

- Train and place participants in high growth, high demand occupations in local area.
- Wage progression.
- Decreasing dependence on Government Assistance.
- Provide life skills, work readiness skills and address barriers to employment through budgeting, relationship development, anger management, parenting, nutrition, advocating for their children, community involvement, prevention strategies, goal setting and substance abuse services.
- Provide pre-employment skills including job searching techniques, resume writing, interviewing techniques, employer/employee relationships, accepting criticism, and job retention.
- Provide group or individual counseling by a Wyoming licensed mental health professional capable of independent practice.
- Provide a case manager to provide ongoing guidance and support.
- Facilitate a group concept amongst the participants.
- Facilitate a relationship with the Wyoming Workforce Centers.

# Wyoming's Investment in CLIMB:

Through the competitive bid process, CLIMB receives TANF funding to provide support services to assist Wyoming in meeting their goals for TANF eligible families.

- For FY 2015, CLIMB will receive the following TANF funds:
  - The Families Becoming Independent (FBI) program in the amount of \$1,542,723.07; and
  - The Community Partnership Initiative (CPI) through Wyoming's County Commissioners:
    - Albany County: \$29,462.30;
    - Campbell County: \$31,455.00;
    - Laramie County: \$72,860.00;
    - Lincoln County: \$50,000.00;
    - Natrona County: \$35,000.00; and
    - Teton County: \$43,198.00.

**Total: \$1,804,698.37**

# CLIMB Performance in 2013:

	Casper	Cheyenne	Gillette	Laramie	Sweetwater Area	Teton Area	AVERAGE
Average participants per year	50	50	20	20	20	20	30
Average Children served per year	65	81	44	35	39	29	49
Average monthly wage pre-program	\$1,079.00	\$970.00	\$1,169.00	\$953.00	\$1,117.00	\$969.00	\$1,043.00
Average monthly wage post-program	\$2,363.00	\$2,028.00	\$3,277.00	\$1,822.00	\$3,101.00	\$2,267.00	\$2,476.00
% increase in wages	45% increase	48% increase	36% increase	52% increase	36% increase	43% increase	43% increase

# CLIMB Performance in 2013 cont.:

- Two years after program completion:

	Before Program	After program
Monthly Income	\$1,027.00	\$2,440.00
Employment Rate	46%	76%
Public Healthcare	32%	10%
SNAP	49%	30%

# CLIMB's Return on Investment (ROI)

- Impact without Program: 46% of CLIMB participants are employed at intake making an average of \$1,031 in monthly wage income. 54% of participants are unemployed at intake and therefore making \$0 per month. Averaging these figures together in a pro rata fashion CLIMB participants are making an average wage of \$474 before the program x 12 months = \$5,688.
- Impact from Program: Post program, participants are employed making \$2,449 in monthly wage income x 12 months = \$29,388
- Total increase in wages over first year period = \$29,388 - \$5,688 = \$23,700
- Cost per Participant = \$12,341.78 and is based upon services to 125 participants who will begin the CLIMB program during the 10/1/14 – 9/30/15 grant period.
- CLIMB ROI year 1 = **1.9 to 1** based on  $\$23,700 \div \$12,341.78 = 1.9$  to 1.
- CLIMB ROI over the lifetime of a participant = **71.1 to 1** based on an average age of participant being 28 and working until age 65 (37 years post program) at an increased wage of \$23,700:  $37 \text{ years} \times \$23,700 = \$876,900 \div \$12,341.78 = 71.1$  to 1.

The financial benefits to the State of Wyoming as a result of the CLIMB Wyoming Program are significant. For every 100 Wyoming families that reach self-sufficiency, Wyoming experiences the following cost savings (conservative estimates):

Program	Annual Savings for WY
Medicaid Savings (50 families) <sup>1</sup>	\$303,700.00
SNAP Savings (47 families) <sup>2</sup>	\$208,022.00
Eliminated Incarceration Cost (5 mothers) <sup>3</sup>	\$223,125.00
Eliminated Foster Care Cost (15 children) <sup>4</sup>	\$119,520.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$854,367.00</b>

- <sup>1</sup> Average yearly cost for 2 children on Medicaid is \$6,074. American Academy of Pediatrics, Medicaid Facts Wyoming. Retrieved May 2012. <http://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/federal-advocacy/access-to-care/Medicaid%20Fact%20Sheets/Wyoming.pdf>
- <sup>2</sup> Average yearly cost for a family of 3 on food stamps (SNAP) is \$4,426. United States Department of Agriculture. Retrieved May 2012. [http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/18SNAPavg\\$PP.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/18SNAPavg$PP.htm)
- <sup>3</sup> Average yearly cost of incarceration per inmate is \$44,625. November 2010 letter from the Department of Corrections to the Joint Appropriations Interim Committee. Retrieved May 2012. <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/ReportsDue/2010/Report%20ID%20685.pdf>
- <sup>4</sup> Average yearly cost of Foster Care per child is \$7,968. Children's Rights, Hitting the M.A.R.C., Foster Care MARC. Retrieved May 2012. <http://www.childrensrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/08/wy.pdf>



# CLIMB's Model

Climb's success is in their nationally-acclaimed program model consisting of:

- Program research and Planning;
- Participant Recruitment;
- Comprehensive Training;
- Job Placement; and
- Ongoing support .

Beth Ward with CLIMB Wyoming will go into greater detail on the unique CLIMB Model as well as the employer relationships they have established.

Questions?