

The Potential for Serving Low-Income Families with SNAP E&T

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The Need for a Partnership

- As a result of time limits, in each state there are declining numbers of TANF families
- Many of these families still live in poverty with adults unemployed or under employed
- There is a significant need for additional employment and training services to move them to mid-skilled, midwage employment
- There is a gap with meeting employer needs for a skilled workforce
- Most of these families are currently, or potentially could receive SNAP



Untapped Potential

- SNAP E&T can be used as an alternative to TANF
- Positive prevention or diversion
- Giving the parent an option for banking TANF months
- Provide comprehensive E&T services for those who time out from TANF
- Provide wage and skill progression services for the working poor
- Could increase collections from non-custodial parents
- E&T wrap around supports can be generous and could include tuition, books, clothing, tools and others in addition to childcare



Some Foundational Components

- An expansion of SNAP E&T target populations to include low income families
- Support services with a key focus on childcare access (potential use of TANF Block Grant funds)
- Coordination with the state or county's TANF and childcare services leadership
- Sharing information and potential training for TANF case managers and service providers
- Consider running a cross match of specific SNAP populations against child support data to determine the amount of arrears



Additional Partnership Benefits

- Access to a new funding stream to support workforce development when TANF resources are decreasing
- The potential for repurposing the TANF MIS to support E&T and capture reporting measures
- E&T can ensure a continuum of training and support services for those that exit TANF
- E&T offers more flexibility and reduced administrative burden as actual hours don't need to be tracked and reported
- Increased child support collections
- SNAP E&T along with TANF should be integrated into the existing workforce system