



## Client Success Through Partnership: 2010 State TANF and Workforce Meeting

Resource Sheet

### SNAP and TANF

#### **Wisconsin and Minnesota's TANF/SNAP Interstate Collaboration**

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The states of Wisconsin and Minnesota piloted a data sharing initiative that gave each state access to the other's TANF, Medicaid, and SNAP electronic information. The data sharing initiative was created to reduce the possibility of participants receiving benefits in both states and to facilitate the transfer of a case between states. In each state, eligibility workers were able to query both states systems to see if the applicant was receiving any benefits. Previous to the pilot, eligibility workers were required to spend a considerable amount of time calling or emailing the other state directly.

#### **North Carolina Cooperative Extension**

Contact: *Betty Gentry*

*Extension EFNEP Program Assistant*

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North Carolina Cooperative Extension's educators provide research-based programs that promote a lifetime of good health. Programs cover a broad spectrum, from pesticide safety to





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indoor air quality, from childhood nutrition and physical activity to heart-healthy eating and food safety. The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Services (CSREES) Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is a unique program that currently operates in all 50 states and in American Samoa, Guam, Micronesia, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. It is designed to assist limited resource audiences in acquiring the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and changed behavior necessary for nutritionally sound diets, and to contribute to their personal development and the improvement of the total family diet and nutritional well-being. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) reaches families with incomes at or below the poverty threshold, or families that qualify for Federal food assistance programs (WIC, Food Stamps, TANF, Head Start, free or reduced school lunches) when these families have school-aged or younger children living at home. Pregnant women who qualify for WIC also qualify for EFNEP. Nutrition Program Assistants (trained paraprofessionals) teach enrolled participants nutrition education. EFNEP participants who take part in the hands-on program use the knowledge they gain to break the cycle of poverty for their families.

#### **Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program**

Contact: *Division of Nutrition/Bureau of Nutrition Risk Reduction*

*Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program*

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*150 Broadway FL 6W*

*Albany New York 12204-2719*

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*Web Site: <http://www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/nutrition/hpnap/index.htm>*

TANF funds are used for the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP). Almost 30 percent of New York's residents have incomes at or below 185 percent of the Federal poverty level and may be eligible for Federal food assistance programs such as SNAP. In many instances, these programs do not adjust for New York State's higher costs for housing, utilities, and food. HPNAP seeks to help to fill this gap. For over the past 20 years, HPNAP provided State and Federal funds to improve the quality of food distributed to an estimated total of 2,500 Emergency Food Relief Organizations (EFRO) such as food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters in New York State. These groups provide over 120 million meals each year to people who are in need.

#### **Tarrant County Resource Connection**

Contact: *1100 Circle Drive*

*Fort Worth, TX 76119-8111*

*Phone: 817-531-7600*

*Web Site: [http://www.tarrantcounty.com/tc\\_resource/site/default.asp](http://www.tarrantcounty.com/tc_resource/site/default.asp)*





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The Resource Connection offers a colocation model for 14 agencies in 12 buildings on a 92-acre campus near the South Campus of the Tarrant County Junior College and not far from several of the highest need areas of the county. On-site programs include: Welfare to Work, TANF, SNAP, Employment and Training, Training Scholarships through the Workforce Investment Act, Urban Inter-tribal Center, Community Supervision and Corrections, and other workforce solutions partners. Services are partially integrated with interagency collaboration aided by a state-of-the-art data system for client intake, eligibility determination and referral, and case management that serves all partner agencies. An advisory board representing partner agencies, with the county taking the role as lead financial and management partner while also providing oversight.

### **Office of Children, Adults, and Families (CAF), Oregon Department of Human Services**

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*DHS Assistant Director for CAF*

*CAF Policy and Program*

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CAF has streamlined intake services for SNAP (food stamps) and other benefits to provide same-day service. To better serve the new participants, CAF is shifting staff to the overwhelmed offices and using Federal bonus money to hire 60 additional staff to help cover the rising need. CAF will roll out an improved intake process for SNAP and other benefits designed to provide same-day service, instead of wait times of a week or more for intake appointments. The streamlined process was developed and successfully tested as part of the DHS Transformation Initiative, employing the proven “lean process” methodology used by private industry and government.

### **New Mexico’s Income Support Division**

Contact: *Helen Nelson*

*Acting Director*

*Income Support Division*

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In New Mexico, Income Support Division within the Human Service Department administers both New Mexico Works (TANF) and the SNAP Employment and Training Program. When a participant comes into the Income Support Division, their information is entered into a





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computer system that records the information and eligibility for both programs. Once eligibility is determined, the participant is sent to the Department of Workforce Solutions for an assessment. The delivery of services for the SNAP Employment and Training program and TANF work program are consolidated for better coordination. The Human Services Department uses an Integrated Service Delivery system; call ISD2, for the programs administered by the Income Support Division. This is the system that records both SNAP and TANF participants' information when they apply.

