

# **Tennessee's Subsidized Employment Programs**

#### **County Specific Programs**

These programs targeted counties that were particularly hard-hit in the recession, with unemployment rates near or above 20%. In these counties, individuals receiving TANF cash benefits AND those deemed at-risk for TANF (income below 133% of poverty, a child under 18 in the home, and limited accessible resources) were eligible. The Department of Human Services contracted with the WIA agency in these counties to handle the majority of the day-to-day operations (including identifying participating employers and reimbursing wages).

#### Perry County

The State subsidized approximately 220 TANF-funded jobs with state/local agencies and private businesses.

**NOTE:** In Perry County, an additional 500 jobs were subsidized utilizing non-TANF funds that allowed hiring of individuals without dependent children.

#### **❖** Lauderdale County

The State subsidized approximately 175 TANF-funded jobs with state/local agencies and private businesses.

#### **❖** Hancock County

The State subsidized approximately 150 TANF-funded jobs with state/local agencies and private businesses.

#### Scott County

The State subsidized approximately 150 TANF-funded jobs with state/local agencies and private businesses.

## Marshall County

The State subsidized approximately 200 TANF-funded jobs with state/local agencies and private businesses. Our partner in Marshall County in particular has made a concerted effort to target small businesses that could potentially keep the employee on salary even after the subsidy ends.

### **Statewide Program**

Statewide, the Tennessee Department of Human Services hired TANF recipients to work in county offices to assist primarily with clerical duties. Because our caseloads have risen dramatically, these positions have been invaluable. TANF recipients were also hired to work in child support offices and vocational rehabilitation sites. Finally, TANF clients were hired into subsidized positions with our community based agencies to assist with the increased demand for services in the weatherization and CSBG (Community Service Block Grant) programs. The Statewide Program employs approximately 650 people. We will be able to temporarily continue these positions utilizing SNAP administrative funds, but expect those to end in March 2011.