

Achieving Client Centered WIOA-Tribal TANF Partnerships

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Establishing Common Goals...

Tribal TANF

WIOA

- Guided by the four purposes of TANF:
- 1. Assisting needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes.
- 2. Reducing the dependence of needy parents by promotion job preparation, work and marriage.
- 3. Preventing out of wedlock pregnancies.
- 4. Encouraging the formation and maintenance of two-parent families

The WIOA act aims to increase access to and opportunities for employment, education, training, and support services, particularly for individuals with the greatest barriers to employment.



- The target populations for both programs intersect
- Tribal TANF recipients are a priority population served by WIOA given they meet the low-income eligibility criteria and often have numerous challenges to training opportunities and obtaining/maintaining employment
- Through collaboration, resources are leveraged to produce optimum outcomes

California Tribal TANF Partnership

- Operates 18 offices in 19 counties throughout Northern
 California
- Over 34,000 square miles of service area
- Service population ranges from rural to urban
- 23 America's Job Centers (AJC's) within our service area
- The largest county we service is San Joaquin County, 4 AJC locations
- Both our site staff and Career Development Coordinators work with WIOA partners on various levels
- Strategies to engage with our local AJC's are varied



Challenges

- Service integration has required effort due to variations in each county
- Inconsistency in collaboration and engagement with some WIOA offices
- Being aware of, and responsive to, employment trends, training needs and employer requirements in each area we service
- Client barriers/personal characteristics of our families
- Ensuring services are client focused
- Knowledge, understanding and visibility of Tribal TANF programs versus State TANF



Grassroots Approach to Collaboration

Ultimate goal of partnerships is to establish customer-driven collaborative relationships between each of our county site locations and their respective WIOA entity

- Cold Calls Drop-ins
- Establishing contacts and relationships, scheduling face-to-face meetings
- Presentations to AJC staff on Tribal TANF program to establish common goals
- Reciprocal presentations to inform staff of various programs available through the partner AJC
- Tour offices
- Attend initial workshops/meetings with participants

Formal Collaboration

Creation of Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) with our AJC partners to allow:

- A formal acknowledgement of partnership, common goals and outline responsibilities of each program
- Development of referral process- referral forms
- Information sharing channels: Calendars, training opportunities, grant funding
- Mutual displaying of program information in office locations
- Participation in networking meetings
- Establish regular communication



Referral Process

- Through conversations and formal agreements, referral processes are developed
- Tailored to the individual office, some AJC's are full service, others are satellite offices, some WIOA programs occur outside of the office (Libraries, other agencies)
- Understanding of what our clients will need to bring: Valid ID, Social Security card, passport to services
- Understanding of what our clients will need from the AJC
- Coordination of service plans
- Knowledge of the various programs each location has to offer and the process for each



Co-location

Greatest collaboration has occurred with our co-located CTTP site and One Stop Center

- Consistent communication and relationships between staff
- Ability to walk participants over to the office, easily attend appointments
- Individualized services
- Staff participation in mock interviewing and employer presentations





Partnership Outcomes

- Referrals to our program from our AJC partners
- The ability to inform our AJC's about Tribal TANF and needs of Tribal communities
- Greater understanding of services available and how to navigate our participants through these systems
- Become informed of employment trends, employer needs and "Career Pathway" programs
- Leverage funding sources for training and educational opportunities, supportive services
- Ability to support specific client goals (education/employment)
- Vocational training opportunities







Client Successes

Rachelle: Single Mother, 3 children ages 6, 14 months and newborn. Career goal: Certified Nurses Assistant

- Researched CNA with Caseworker
- One Stop offered a CNA class, CTTP covered the cost of enrollment
- One Stop Counselor was able to pay for all books, materials and uniform
- CTTP provided cash assistance, child care and transportation assistance
- Rachelle passed her CNA course and recently took the Nurse Aide Certification through the California Department of Public Health
- She passed both sections and is now state certified as a CNA
- Rachelle is now working with her One Stop counselor on job readiness to prepare for job search



Client Successes

Erin: Single Mother with four children. Inconsistent work history. Interest in becoming a chef/pastry chef.

- Our office was made aware of on-site interviews for a new hotel- multiple positions, including food service from our WIOA partner agency.
- Erin began working with a One Stop counselor on her resume and interview skills. Attended soft skills workshops.
- One Stop counselor set Erin up with obtaining her food handlers certification, free of charge
- At the urging of her Caseworker and One Stop counselor, Erin attended each on-site employer meet and greet. Through this she met the food services manager prior to the interview day for these positions.
- With the support, encouragement and guidance of both agencies, Erin was hired on the spot!
- CTTP is providing newly employed clothing, child care and transportation assistance



Client Successes

Jason: Single father, three children. Army Veteran. Career interest: Welding, goal to join the Iron Workers Union

- Cost of training program exceeded our vocational allowance, was connected with WIOA office to explore veterans services and other WIOA funding options.
- Due to his veteran status, he received priority enrollment in an impacted welding certification program, with full funding.
- CTTP assisted with the cost of specialty tools, transportation, child care assistance and cash grant while he completed his program.
- After graduation, Jason attended an apprenticeship program through Field Ironworkers Gladiator Reinforcing Course in Benicia, CA.
- Jason was then hired full-time for a Bay Area reinforced iron contractor, earning prevailing wages and excellent benefits!



- Engagement is continuous
- Ultimate goal is assist our clients to success
- Build on strengths
- Involve other community partners



Thank you!

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"Empowering native families to self-sufficiency through a path of tribal cultures, education, wellness, and employment"