WELFARE PEER TA

Building a PEER TA Network State by State

Technical Assistance Options for Tribal TANF Programs

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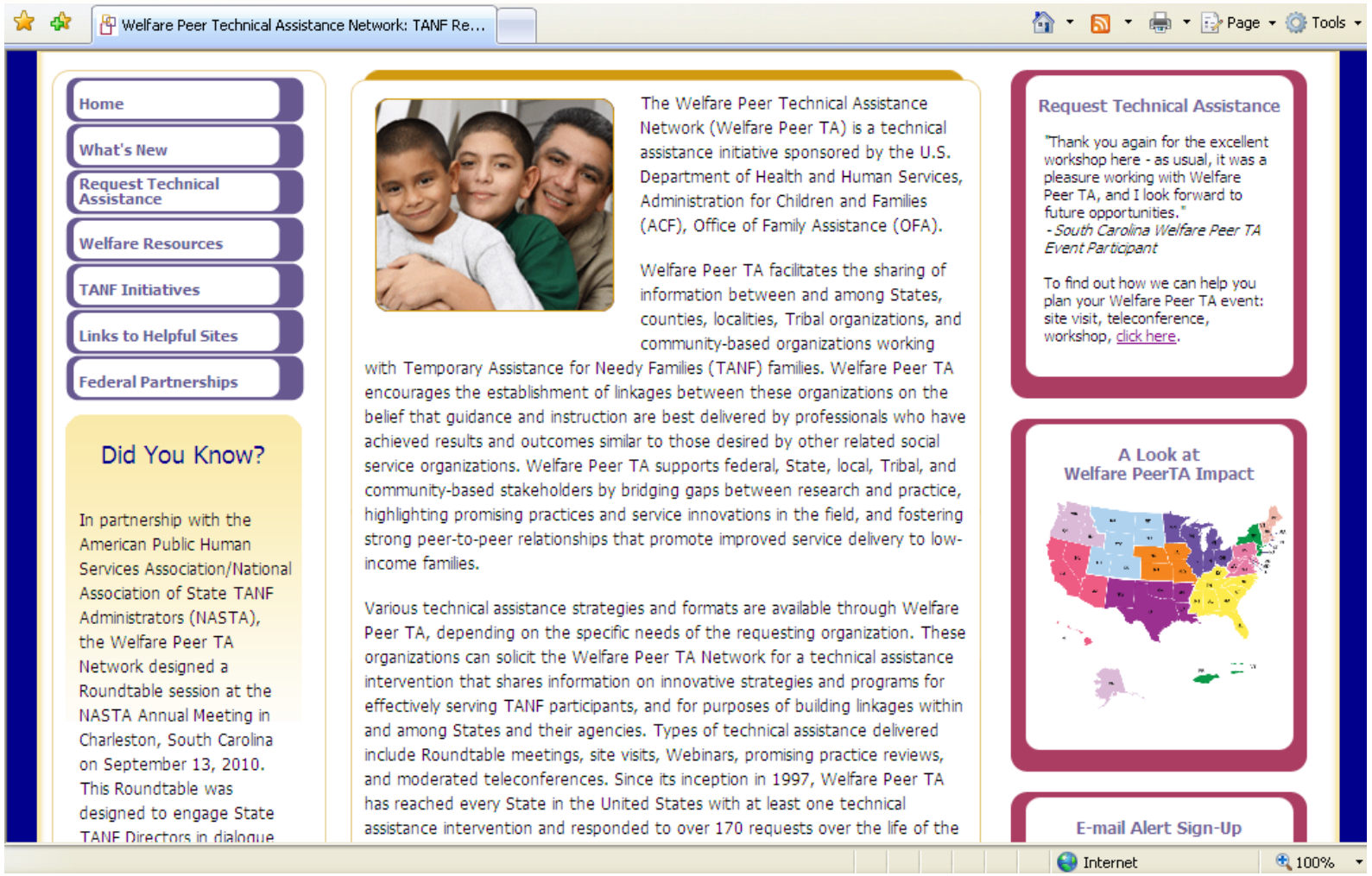
What is the Welfare Peer TA Network?

- A Federal initiative through the Office of Family Assistance (OFA), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
  - Facilitates the sharing of information about promising practices in implementing the TANF program.
  - Establishes linkages among TANF agencies, low-income families, and their partners at the State, County, local, and Tribal level.

Welfare Peer TA Goals

- Serving as a central outreach and dissemination vehicle for OFA, ACF.
- Providing onsite and virtual training and technical assistance to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program offices.
- Strengthening OFA's documentation of evidence-based programs and outcomes.
- Connecting and creating an environment of interoperability among programs, offices, and contacts across the United States.

Building a PEER TA Network State by State



http://www.peerta.acf.hhs.gov

Web Site Features

Innovative Outreach and Dissemination

- Web-based Innovative Program Nomination form and listing
- Interactive U.S. Map demonstrating technical assistance delivered since the inception of the Welfare Peer TA Network (including access to reports, resources, handouts, and other related peer-to-peer needs)
- Online Technical Assistance Request Form
- Interactive question- and-answer area
- E-mail alert registration
- Search tool
- Share this Page feature (allows e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sharing by end users)
- More than 3,000 welfare resources
- Virtual webinars
- RSS feeds

Web Site Outcomes and Statistics

- The Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network has provided technical assistance for every State, some Tribes, and most Territories.
- More than 2,200 w*elfare resources* are available on our site.
- To date, there have been 392 relevant questions (290 currently live on our site), 504 responses to questions (495 currently live on our site), 87 innovative programs, and more than 200 technical assistance requests submitted to the Web site.
- The total number of contacts in our database is 7,084 with 4,574 receiving weekly e-mail alerts.
- On average per month—from January to June 2011—the Web site received 15,965 visitors and approximately 23,864 page views.

What is Technical Assistance?

- An intervention that shares information on innovative strategies and programs for effectively serving TANF participants, for the purposes of building linkages within and among agencies.
- Types of technical assistance delivered include:
  - Roundtable meetings
  - Site visits
  - Webinars
  - Promising practice reviews
  - Moderated teleconferences

Examples of Technical Assistance Activities

- Life Skills Curriculum and Training (New Mexico)
- Earned-Income Tax Credit Program Support (Georgia and Michigan)
- Motivational Interviewing Training (Texas)
- Wraparound Case Management Training (Chippewa Cree Tribe, Montana)
- Subsidized Employment Panel at the National Association of State TANF Administrators Annual Conference
- Webinars: Domestic Violence (State and Tribal) and English-Language Learners

Accomplishments and Outcomes

- Wraparound Case Management Training–Confederated Tribe of Siletz Indians and Chippewa Cree Tribe
- Georgia Earned-Income Tax Credit/Asset-Building Statewide Coalition Meeting
- WeCARE (Wellness, Comprehensive Assessment, Rehabilitation, and Employment) Technical Assistance to Hawaii, Wisconsin, and Texas
- Establishment of a Statewide Child Kinship Program–North Dakota

Topical Areas

Initial roundtables and events requested by various State, Tribal, and local entities have laid the strategic framework in the following areas:

- Healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood
- Integrating services and creating interoperability and collaboration
- Urban TANF agency needs
- Case management and motivational interviewing
- Rural TANF agency needs
- Tribal agency needs
- Transportation
- Data and information technology
- Faith-based and community-based organizations

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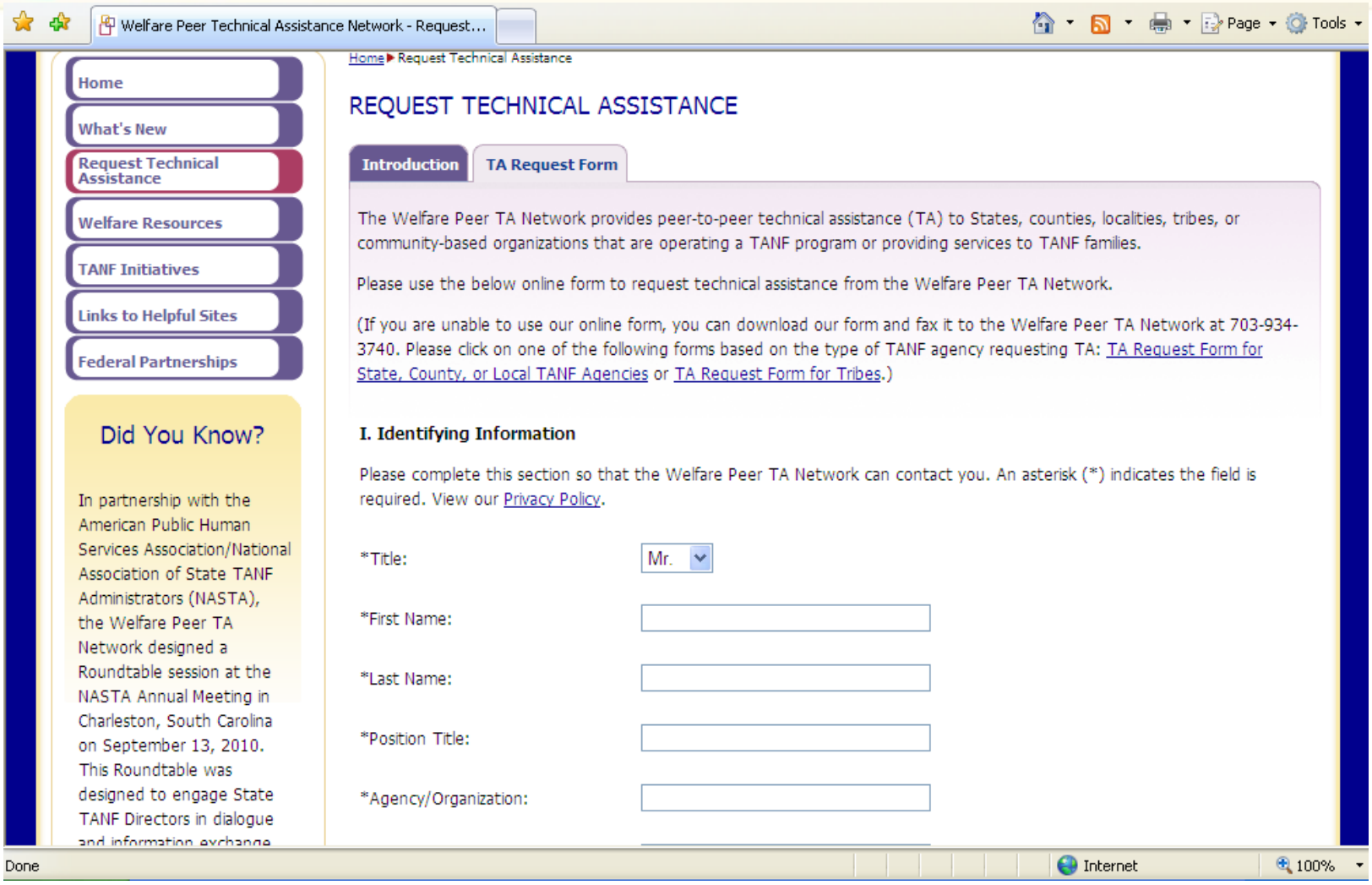

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TA Request Form for Tribal TANF Agencies

Welfare PeerTA TA Request for Tribal TANF Agencies	
Title:	Requestor Name:
Position Title:	Requestor Agency/Organization:
Requestor Address:	Requestor County:
Requestor Phone:	Requestor Fax:
Requestor Email:	

Background of Tribal Agency:

Type of Agency:

- ☐ Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- ☐ Tribal consortium
- ☐ Tribal Native Employment Works (NEW)
- ☐ Other, please explain:

Service Area:

- ☐ Reservation only
- ☐ Off Reservation Service Area (Near Reservation)
- ☐ Multi-Reservation
- ☐ Multi-county Service Area
- ☐ Other, please indicate:

TA Request Form for Tribal TANF Agencies

Description of TA Requested:

Area of Need:

Please review the list below for available areas of technical assistance. Please select what best describes the area of assistance you are requesting at this time.

- ☐ Verifying work activity hours and data reporting
- ☐ Client intake and assessments
- ☐ Individual case management techniques
- ☐ Crisis intervention
- ☐ Confidentiality
- ☐ Policy and procedures development and implementation
- ☐ Staffing and staff training
- ☐ Educating the Tribal council
- ☐ Collaboration with State Agencies
- ☐ Partnering with other Tribal agencies
- ☐ Developing MOUs/contracts
- ☐ Educating the Tribal community
- ☐ Establishing and Maintaining Professional Boundaries
- ☐ Assessment for TANF program sustainability

TA Request Form for Tribal TANF Agencies

Please describe why you have selected this as your primary area of need. Include how this area has been a challenge for your organization, or why you feel this area is of importance.

Has your organization made any effort to resolve this issue marked above? If so, please explain the steps that were taken.

Format of Technical Assistance:

What delivery method or format would you consider as your first choice for this technical assistance?

☐Moderated teleconferences: Training can be conducted via teleconferencing. This can be accomplished in one or more calls, and can be attended by more than one Tribal agency.

☐Peer-to-peer Roundtable: A similar or comparable program, who has had success in the area of requested TA, meets on site with the requesting program to provide peer training and share promising practices.

☐Site visit: An outside trainer is selected to visit the Tribal Agency on site, and provide training in the area requested

☐Workshop: Two or more Tribal Agencies, who have similar requests and needs, meet at a common location, and an outside trainer, is selected to provide the requested training at this location.

Participation

How many individuals (staff) from your Tribal TANF organization, and or other coordinating programs, do you anticipate participating in this technical assistance event? (Please list position titles)

TA Request Form for Tribal TANF Agencies

Goals and Anticipated Outcomes

Based on the technical assistance areas selected, please answer the following questions related to your desires or vision for this event:

Please estimate how many TANF participants will potentially benefit from this event?

How many offices/locations/centers are expected to implement new initiatives or improved service delivery as a result of this event?

What is your expected timeframe for having completely integrated the lessons learned from this TA event?

- ☐ 0-3 months from date of event
- ☐ 4-6 months from date of event
- ☐ 6+ months from date of event

What are your expectations from this TA request, and how will you measure success?

How are TA Requests Reviewed?

- The extent to which the assistance requested is likely to move TANF participants from welfare to work, self-sufficiency, and family stability.
- The degree to which the area of requested assistance is related to TANF priorities:
  - Provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes, or in the homes of relatives;
  - End of the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage;
  - Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual, numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies; and
  - Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

How are TA Requests Reviewed?

- The degree to which the requested technical assistance methods foster information exchange among Tribes, States, counties, and communities.
- The extent to which the technical assistance requested may have value for other Tribes, States, or programs.
- The cost-effectiveness of the requested technical assistance.

Once your TA Request is received, you will be contacted by the Welfare Peer TA Network within three business days to discuss next steps.

Welfare Peer TA Team

http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov

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