

# Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network





### 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.







Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network: TANF Re...













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#### Did You Know?

In partnership with the American Public Human Services Association/National Association of State TANE Administrators (NASTA). the Welfare Peer TA Network designed a Roundtable session at the NASTA Annual Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina on September 13, 2010. This Roundtable was designed to engage State TANE Directors in dialogue



The Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network (Welfare Peer TA) is a technical assistance initiative sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Family Assistance (OFA).

Welfare Peer TA facilitates the sharing of information between and among States, counties, localities, Tribal organizations, and community-based organizations working

with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) families. Welfare Peer TA encourages the establishment of linkages between these organizations on the belief that guidance and instruction are best delivered by professionals who have achieved results and outcomes similar to those desired by other related social service organizations. Welfare Peer TA supports federal, State, local, Tribal, and community-based stakeholders by bridging gaps between research and practice, highlighting promising practices and service innovations in the field, and fostering strong peer-to-peer relationships that promote improved service delivery to lowincome families.

Various technical assistance strategies and formats are available through Welfare Peer TA, depending on the specific needs of the requesting organization. These organizations can solicit the Welfare Peer TA Network for a technical assistance intervention that shares information on innovative strategies and programs for effectively serving TANF participants, and for purposes of building linkages within and among States and their agencies. Types of technical assistance delivered include Roundtable meetings, site visits, Webinars, promising practice reviews, and moderated teleconferences. Since its inception in 1997, Welfare Peer TA has reached every State in the United States with at least one technical assistance intervention and responded to over 170 requests over the life of the

#### Request Technical Assistance

"Thank you again for the excellent workshop here - as usual, it was a pleasure working with Welfare Peer TA, and I look forward to future opportunities." South Carolina Welfare Peer TA

Event Participant

To find out how we can help you plan your Welfare Peer TA event: site visit, teleconference. workshop, click here.





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#### **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 resources
- ❖ Virtual webinars
- **❖** RSS feeds

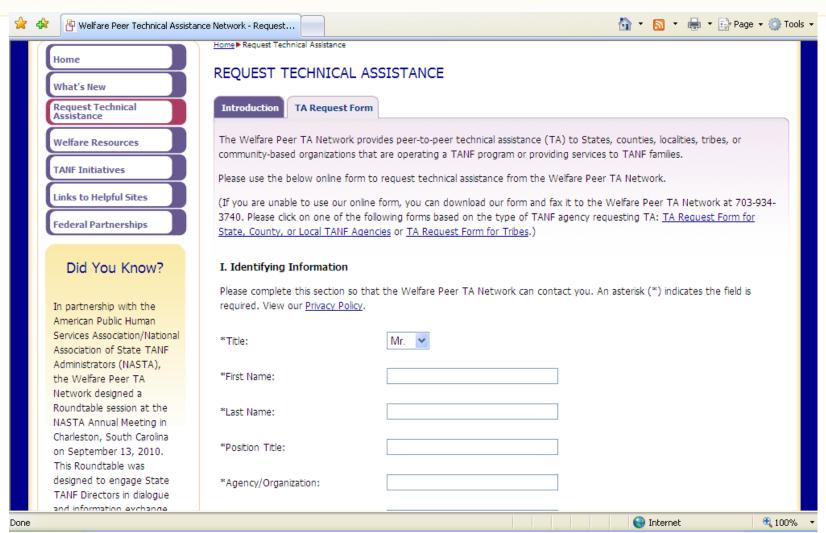


#### What is Technical Assistance?

- 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:
  - Peer to Peer Roundtable and Workshops
  - Site Visits
  - Webinars
  - Information Gathering and Dissemination
  - Teleconferences









### What happens after you submit a Technical Assistance Request?

- TA requests are jointly reviewed by the Welfare Peer TA Network and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) based on the following criteria:
  - The extent to which the technical 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 technical 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.
  - The degree to which the requested technical assistance methods foster information exchange among States, Tribes, counties, and communities.
  - The extent to which the technical assistance requested may have value for other States/ Tribes or programs.
  - The cost-effectiveness of the requested technical assistance.



#### **Welfare Peer TA Team**

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