

## Welfare Reauthorization Resources

May 2006

The recent reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program has important implications for national, state and local leaders. Addressing the new legislative provisions and upcoming regulations affecting work participation rates, reporting, and verification is a pressing challenge for TANF administrators, program developers, and service providers. Drawing on its extensive experience and expertise on welfare and workforce development issues, The Finance Project has compiled a list of resources—including clearinghouses, online tools, and policy-relevant papers—to help inform decision-making on these important issues. We will keep you updated as new resources become available.

### RESOURCES FROM THE FINANCE PROJECT

---

*The Finance Project is a specialized non-profit research, consulting, technical assistance and training firm for public and private sector leaders nationwide. We help leaders make smart investment decisions, develop sound financing strategies, and build solid partnerships that benefit children, families and communities. We serve as an intellectual resource for policy makers, program developers, and community leaders who want new ideas and the policy tools to implement them; information about what's going on elsewhere, how it is working and why; and practical, hands-on support and assistance to advance their own reform agendas.*



#### **Economic Success Clearinghouse** (available at [www.financeproject.org/irc/win](http://www.financeproject.org/irc/win))

An online clearinghouse that connects leaders to resources about effective policies, programs and financing strategies that help low-income families. It provides links to policy-relevant research and tools by The Finance Project and others across a range of topics, including:

- Welfare ~ Policies and practices regarding assistance for needy families, including work requirements and engaging hard-to-serve clients
- Workforce development ~ Services to help individuals connect to the job market, develop work-related skills, sustain employment, and advance in the labor market
- Work supports ~ Services such as child care and food, housing, and transportation assistance to help low-income families secure and retain employment
- Income supplements ~ Benefits, such as child support and tax credits, that boost the earnings of low-income workers
- Asset development ~ Supports designed to help low-income families build personal and financial resources



#### **Promising Practices Catalog** (available at [www.financeproject.org/irc/promising](http://www.financeproject.org/irc/promising))

The Promising Practices catalog is designed to help users learn about innovative initiatives across the country that can serve as ideas and examples for leaders nationwide. It includes over 900 promising practices profiled by The Finance Project in our main areas of work. There are more than 380 promising practices related to welfare and workforce development issues. Users can search the catalog by a general keyword search or policy and program areas; state and locality; lead agency; and funding sources.



## **Finding Federal Funding** (available at [www.financeproject.org/fedfund](http://www.financeproject.org/fedfund))

To address the need for information among state and local leaders on how they can maximize federal resources to support promising programs and initiatives, The Finance Project has produced federal funding guides targeted to leaders interested in funding programs and services in specific policy and program areas, including workforce development, early care and education, out-of-school time, obesity prevention, and substance abuse and mental health. In addition, The Finance Project has developed and maintains an online federal funding catalog that enables leaders to search for federal funding sources relevant to their specific needs. This tool brings together information on:

- Funding sources and their purposes;
- How these funds can be used across an array of policies, programs and services;
- Eligible recipients, partners, and beneficiaries of funding;
- The flow of funds;
- Funding history;
- Application processes and requirements; and
- Links for additional information.

The federal funding catalog includes over 90 federal funding sources that support workforce development.

### **Selected Publications**

The Finance Project has developed over 180 publications on developing, financing and sustaining welfare and workforce development programs. These publications outline effective program and funding strategies, profile promising practices, and distill lessons learned from the field. Selected publications include:

- Finding Funding: A Guide to Federal Sources for Workforce Development Initiatives, by Nanette Relave with Elizabeth Mendes, The Finance Project, June 2005. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/workforcefunding.pdf>
- Using Participation to Promote Welfare Reform Goals, by Nanette Relave, The Finance Project, June 2003. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/usingparticipationIN.htm>
- Work Supports and Low-Wage Workers: The Promise of Employer Involvement, by Nanette Relave, The Finance Project, 2005. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/worksupports.pdf>
- Supporting Retention and Advancement in the Labor Market, by Nanette Relave, The Finance Project, November 2004. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/supportingretentionRN.pdf>
- Promoting Employer Practices that Increase Retention and Advancement, by Susan Crandall, The Finance Project, January 2004. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/promotingemployerpracticesIN.htm>
- Incumbent Worker Training for Low-Wage Workers, by Nanette Relave, The Finance Project, October 2003. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/incumbentworkertrainingIN.htm>
- Financing Transitional Jobs Programs: A Strategic Guide to Federal Funding Programs, by David Kass, The Finance Project, June 2004. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/transitionaljobs.pdf>
- Transitional Jobs for Ex-Offenders, by Amanda Elk Szekely, The Finance Project, December 2004. <http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/transitionaljobsRN.pdf>

## OTHER KEY RESOURCES

---

### Welfare Reform Legislation

Summary of Public Law 109-171 - "Deficit Reduction Act," which reauthorizes the TANF block grant through 2010.

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109\\_cong\\_public\\_laws&docid=f:publ171.109](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ171.109)

### U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Press Release: Welfare Reform Reauthorized: Healthy Marriage, Fatherhood Initiative Approved; Work Requirement Strengthened. February 8, 2006. <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2006pres/20060208.html>

Framing the Critical Issues: TANF Reauthorization. Presentation by Grant Collins, Deputy Director of the Office of Family Assistance, ACF, HHS at the Urban Leadership Forum – Looking Back, Moving Forward, March 2, 2005, Baltimore, MD.

The PowerPoint presentation [www.peerta.acf.hhs.gov/ppts/Framing.ppt](http://www.peerta.acf.hhs.gov/ppts/Framing.ppt)

Resource List <http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov/pdf/Framing.pdf>

### Recent TANF Caseload Data

Total TANF Families <http://www.acf.hhs.gov//programs/ofa/caseload/2005/family05tanf.htm2004>

FY04 SSP-MOE <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/caseload/monthly/1204ssp.htm>

FY04 State-by-State Profiles showing data on Work Participation Rates

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov//programs/ofa/annualreport6/chapter14/chap14giflinks.htm>

FY04 Average Monthly Number of Adults with Hours of Participation in Work Activities, Including Waivers

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/particip/indexparticip.htm>

### Policy-Relevant Papers

The Challenge of Achieving High Work Participation Rates in Welfare Programs by LaDonna Pavetti. Welfare Reform & Beyond Policy Brief # 31. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, October 2004. <http://www.brookings.edu/es/wrb/publications/pb/pb31.pdf>

Conference TANF Agreement Requires States to Increase Work Participation by 69 Percent, but New Funding Meets Only a Fraction of New Costs by Mark Greenberg. Washington, DC: Center on Law and Social Policy, January 2006.

[http://www.clasp.org/publications/tanfagreement\\_update\\_jan12.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/tanfagreement_update_jan12.pdf)

HHS Should Exercise Oversight to Help Ensure that TANF Work Participation is Measured Consistently across States. Washington, DC: Government Accountability Office, August 2005.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05821.pdf>

Memorandum on TANF Work Participation Standards: Revising the Caseload Reduction Credit by Gene Falk. Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, December 2005.

<http://www.chn.org/dia/organizations/chn/pdf/crstanfwork.pdf>

Participation in TANF Work Activities in 2004 by Elisa Minoff. Washington, DC: Center on Law and Social Policy, March 23, 2006. [http://www.clasp.org/publications/work\\_participation\\_activities.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/work_participation_activities.pdf)

Strategies for Increasing Participation in TANF Education and Training Activities by Evelyn Ganzglass. Washington, DC: Center on Law and Social Policy, April 17, 2006.

[http://www.clasp.org/publications/tanf\\_ed\\_training.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/tanf_ed_training.pdf)

Summary of the TANF and Work Participation Provisions in the Budget Reconciliation Bill by Mark Greenberg and Sharon Parrot. Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Center on Law and Social Policy, January 2006. <http://www.cbpp.org/1-18-06tanf.pdf>

Taking the High Road: How States Should Meet TANF's New Participation Standards by Shawn Fremstad and Jason Walsh. Washington, DC: The Workforce Alliance, February 2006. [http://www.workforcealliance.org/policy/TANF/TWA-TANF\\_High\\_Road-FINAL.pdf](http://www.workforcealliance.org/policy/TANF/TWA-TANF_High_Road-FINAL.pdf)

The TANF Participation Rate Structure under the Budget Reconciliation Bill: A Summary of the Rules by Mark Greenberg. Washington, DC: Center on Law and Social Policy, January 2006. [http://www.clasp.org/publications/tanf\\_participation\\_rate\\_structure.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/tanf_participation_rate_structure.pdf)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: FY2007 Budget Proposals by Gene Falk. Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, February 2006. [http://www.opencrs.com/rpts/RS22385\\_20060221.pdf](http://www.opencrs.com/rpts/RS22385_20060221.pdf)

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant: A Primer on Financing and Requirements for State Programs. Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, February 21, 2006. Order No.: RL32748

Welfare Reform: Better Information Needed to Understand Trends in States' Uses of the TANF Block Grant. Washington, DC: Government Accountability Office, March, 2006. <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-414>

Welfare Reform: HHS Should Exercise Oversight to Help Ensure TANF Work Participation Is Measured Consistently across States. Washington, DC: Government Accountability Office, August 2005. <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05821high.pdf>

### **Stay tuned!**

Stay tuned for these upcoming publications from The Finance Project:

**Finding Resources to Support Workforce Development Services for Youth** by Nanette Relave

**State Level Coordination Strategies for Youth Workforce Development** by Nanette Relave

*For more information about The Finance Project, contact Nanette Relave ([nrelave@financeproject.org](mailto:nrelave@financeproject.org); 202-587-1017) or Christianne Lind ([clind@financeproject.org](mailto:clind@financeproject.org); 202-587-1002), Co-leaders of the Economic Success for Families and Communities Practice Group.*