

TANF Purposes

- Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for *in their own homes*.
- Reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage;
- · Prevent out-of-wedlock pregnancies; and
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of twoparent families.

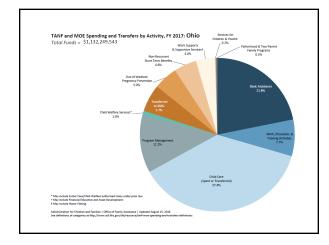


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How TANF Funds Are Used (not exhaustive) – Federal and State MOE

	Nationwide (\$31 billion)	Ohio (\$1.1 billion)
Basic Assistance	22.7%	21.8%
Work, Education, Training	10.5%	7.7%
Child Care	16.1%	37.4%
Refundable Tax Credits	9%	-
Child Welfare Services	7.1%	1%
Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start	8.1%	-
Non-recurrent, short-term benefits	2.8%	4.8%

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Basic Assistance

- Financial assistance e.g. welfare benefits designed to meet basic needs of household.
- Recipients are subject to work requirements, time limits and a variety of state obligations (e.g. job search before application). Those that don't meet requirements are subject to sanctions and benefit termination.
- States can exempt families from work requirements and time limits but are required to have 50% of caseload meeting work requirements (or face sanctions) and no more than 20% of caseload can be exempted from five year time limit.



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Improve Provision of Basic Assistance to Help At-Risk & Homeless Families

- Increase access to financial assistance to families in crisis and expedite receipt of assistance.
- Protect vulnerable families from sanctions and time limits that can increase housing instability and homelessness.
- Ensure benefit levels better reflect the cost of housing.



Basic Assistance & Homelessness

- TANF funds <u>can</u> be used to provide rental assistance to families (and can be longterm!).
 - If rental assistance lasts for more than 4 mos, the state must consider the funds as "basic assistance" meaning that the family remains subject to same requirements as receiving a cash benefit (e.g. work requirements, time limits, etc.)
 - If family is already receiving welfare benefits (and subject to those rules) than that should not be a problem, however, it can be very difficult for a third party to maintain documentation for state reporting.



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Short-Term, Nonrecurrent benefits

- Designed to help a household overcome a crisis not expected to recur; funds cannot extend beyond 4 mos. (or is considered "assistance").
- Can be used to provide up to four months of rental assistance.
- Can be coupled with McK-Vento to provide more than four months of help (but must be done carefully).



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Supporting Families

- TANF provides a range of supports that unstably housed/homeless families need. Are they accessing them? Are they good quality? How can they be improved to better fit the needs of families experiencing homelessness?
 - Child care
 - Employment training including subsidized jobs
 - Job support/placement
 - Case Management
- Strategies: Out-stationing workers in homeless service systems, dedicated/specialized services for homeless TANF families, providing preferences for TANF families experiences homelessness, etc.



TANF/Homeless Service Collaboration Approaches

- Relies on short-term, nonrecurrent benefits to expand RRH capacity:
 - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania pilot
 - Indiana
 - Georgia
 - Idaho CATCH program (past)
 - Now being replicated in NM by HopeWorks in Albuquerque
 - Utah (The Road Home)
 - · now statewide prevention and rapid re-housing



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TANF/Homeless Service Collaboration Models

- · California Initiatives
 - Housing Support Program (\$72 million/annual)
 - SF coupling with subsidized employment
 - Child Welfare Pilot
 - Family Stabilization Program
 - (APS prevention pilot)
- Washington, DC ("Joint Ownership")
 - Integrated TANF/homeless services response
 - Housing assessment at intake, TANF enrollment for families seeking assistance
 - Integrated case management RRH and TANF employment services coordinated



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TANF/Homeless Service Collaboration Models

- New Jersey Mercer County (Trenton)
 - Uses TANF for rental assistance
 - Mercer uses rental assistance "upfront" for RRH intervention vs. transitional housing
 - Reduced family homelessness by over 70 percent, also reduces length of time families are on public assistance, improved employment income
 - Bulk of services for homeless families (prevention, diversion, RRH, shelter) paid for with TANF funds
 - New model for young families



Unobligated TANF Balances (2017)

- Nationally: \$3.3 billionOhio: \$463 million
 - Five percent of Ohio unobligated TANF funds would cover RRH for 3,858 families
 - More than 3 x the number of families experiencing literal homelessness at the most recent PIT count



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Questions?

Sharon McDonald

National Alliance to End Homelessness
(202) 942-8253

smcdonald@naeh.org

