

Systems to Family Stability National Policy Academy

SPONSORED BY THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
(ACF), OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE

Purpose:

- ❖ Redesign North Carolina's **Work First** Program based on best practices and evidence based research

Project Requirements

- Identifying up to **6** designated leadership participants

(Small Print: Representing various stakeholders (State Divisions / County DSS) to participate in onsite, virtual and in-person meetings - June 2015 and Spring 2016).

- Designation and development of Core Teams and Home Teams as directed by the Academy

(participate in onsite coach lead consultation and related virtual activities, webinars and conference calls).

- Designate at least **one** staff representative to participate in approximately six virtual trainings/events

Project Requirements:

(NC self-nominated / accepted into TANF Academy)

- Work closely with the Office of Family Assistance / Technical Assistance Coaches
 - Develop a statement of goals
 - Assess service strengths and gaps
 - Develop action plans and track progress over the 18 month course of the Academy
 - Participate in regular (quarterly) communications with the Office of Family Assistance on post-project outcomes

Strategies & Opportunities

- ❖ Build upon the recommendations of the NCACDSS **Work First Work Group**
- ❖ Build upon the work of the **Work Support Strategies (WSS)** grant / leadership summits
- ❖ Strengthen working partnerships with the NC Department of Commerce, **Division of Workforce Solutions**

Strategies & Opportunities

- ❖ Enhance Work First interface with Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- ❖ Explore streamlining referral processes with NC Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
- ❖ Explore Work First and Child Welfare interfaces that enhance Child Well Being

Strategies & Opportunities

- ❖ Demonstrate **job-driven training approaches**, including the provision of vocational case management to provide work support services and post-employment retention services
- ❖ Explore new partnerships with the Department of Commerce, specifically the Division of Workforce Solutions and **the Labor & Economic Analysis Division** and Community College System
- ❖ Explore new collaborative approaches between **Work First** and **Food & Nutrition Services (FNS) Employment & Training**

Next Steps:

Anticipate contact by Office of Economic Opportunity, ACF to schedule project meetings in June 2015