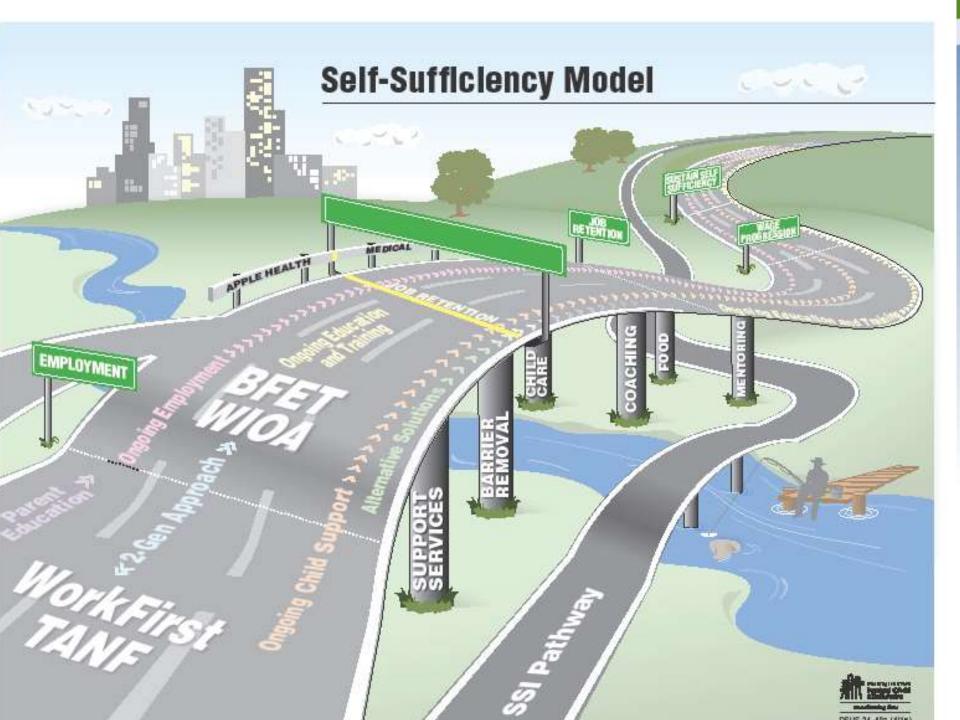


# BFET AND TANF WORKING TOGETHER





## What is Transforming Case management?



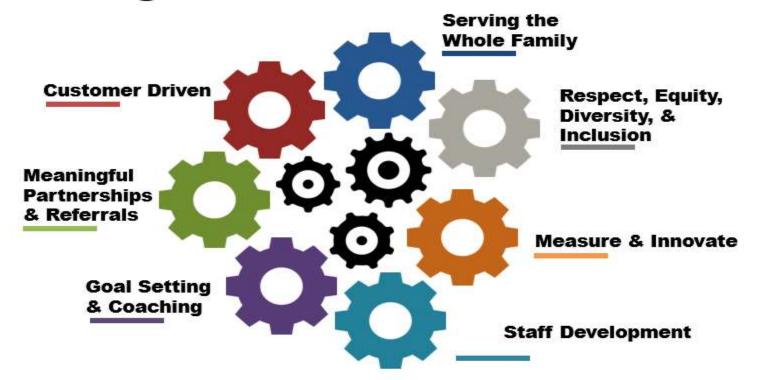
- Multi-year, cross-functional project.
- Goal is to build effective, standardized case management practices
- Implement the "Super Highway to Self-Sufficiency
- Evaluate learnings from:
  - Systems to Family Stability Policy Academy pilots
  - Other initiatives and research related to poverty and mitigation strategies and brain sciences
  - Road shows
  - Focus Groups
- Workgroups
- Recommendations



## What is Transforming Case management?

### Transforming Lives

#### Values of Transforming Case Management



#### What is TANF?

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (60 month time limit)
- Monthly grant assistance to families or caregivers with children
- Requires engagement in WorkFirst activities goal of economic independence
- Support services
- Individualized Responsibility Plans-IRP
- Childcare assistance
- Case management Barrier removal/resolution
- Uses eJAS
- Up front assessment (Comprehensive Evaluation)
- Up front orientation



### What is new with TANF? Lives

- The 12 month vocational training maximum for TANF was increased to 24 months.
- The TANF grant is increasing by 9.3% on 7/1/2018
- The cash resource limits are increasing to 6,000.00 on 2/1/2019
- Means testing for child-only TANF cases was been repealed as of 7/1/2018.

#### TANF and BFET similarities

- Assist recipients in obtaining a living wage leading towards self sufficiency
- Managed by DSHS
- Strong partnerships with colleges and community based organizations
- Provide education and job search options
- Support services
- Individualized activity plans-IRP, IEP
- Activities that may qualify for childcare assistance
- Both programs meet the work requirements for stude
- Use the eJas system
- Case managed
- Up front assessment



#### TANF and BFET differences

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TANF	BFET LIVES
Mandatory work readiness activities	Voluntary work readiness activities
Time limited Vocational Education (24 months)	No time limits
and overall TANF time limit (60 months)	
Child support goes to the state	Child support goes to the client
Funded by Health and Human Services	Funded by Food and Nutrition Services
Offers a monthly grant to cover basic needs	No monthly assistance grant
Must be pregnant or minor dependent child	Must be over 16 years old
No retention services	Retention services
Able to work is not an eligibility requirement	Must be able to work 20+ hours per week
Required to collect actual hours or	Collected but not recorded in "actual hours
participation	field." Participation is tracked through eJAS client
	notes.
Earned income limit family of 3: \$1,042	Earned income limit for family of 3: \$3,403



## Why might families transition off TANF who are not yet self sufficient?

- Entry level employment- part time employment
- Sanction
- 60 month time limit
- Child Support



## BFET can be a better option than TANF for some families

- Positive prevention
- Transitioning off TANF
- Career pathway
- Updated Workfirst orientation and manual
- Reverse referrals
- Diversion



# What is Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)

A cash assistance program that BFET participants may be eligible for!!

- Up to \$1,250 annually to help families access emergency assistance for housing, utilities, transportation, and employment related costs
- Must meet TANF eligibility, but not be on TANF

Strengthen the BFET to TANF exit strategy – Pilot: Send BFET postcards to TANF exiters Incorporate more
BFET detail into the
WorkFirst
HandbookPathway to
Employment

BFET Point of Contact
(local SME) in all
Community Service
Offices & Customer
Service Contact
Centers

Your idea

Strengthen connection between BFET &
Diversion Cash
Assistance

TANF & BFET Collaboration – In Development

Your idea

Identify opportunities to strengthen the BFET/WorkFirst partnership



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