

Community Stakeholder Meeting Agenda

Topic / Discussion	Time
Welcome and Introductions	10 Minutes
ESHB 2082 Presentation	15 Minutes
ESHB 2082 Open Discussion	25 Minutes
Break	10 Minutes
WorkFirst / ESSB 5921 Presentation	20 Minutes
WorkFirst / ESSB 5921 Open Discussion	35 Minutes
Closing	5 Minutes



Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2082

(Chapter 36, Laws of 2011, 1st Ex. Sess.)

An Act Terminating the Disability Lifeline Program



Disability Lifeline

- **State-funded** cash program for adults without children who cannot work due to incapacity. Washington is one of only a few states that offer a similar **state-funded** program for incapacitated adults.
- For March 2011, the Disability Lifeline caseload was 36,851.
- Monthly cash grant; 90+ percent also receive Basic Food.
- Persons who meet SSI disability requirements receive Medicaid
- Others receive state-funded Medical Care Services
- Almost one-third (30%) of DL clients are homeless or living in temporary housing.



ESHB 2082

- Terminates the Disability Lifeline program effective October 31, 2011.
- Establishes three new programs effective November 1, 2011.
 - Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) program
 - Pregnant Women Assistance (PW) program
 - Housing and Essential Needs (HEN)





Housing and Essential Needs Grant

- Commerce is required to have funds dispersed to local governments or other community based organizations by September 1, 2011. Funding includes:
 - The budget is set at \$64 million over two years
 - \$4 million is set aside for essential needs
 - Remaining funds divided between housing assistance for homeless clients and those clients at “substantial risk” of becoming homeless
- Generally, persons who receive Medical Care Services (subject to some exception) may receive Housing and Essential Needs assistance.
- Recipients are not entitled to assistance. Access is dependent on available funding.
- Housing and Essential Needs Grantees will have access to DSHS’s web-based Benefits Verification System (BVS).
- Recipients of ADATSA or the ABD program who are receiving MCS will not be eligible for Housing and Essential Needs assistance.



Aged, Blind, and Disabled Program & Pregnant Women Assistance Program

- The Aged, Blind, and Disabled program (ABD) will provide cash assistance to persons who are:
 - Aged 65 or older;
 - Blind, based on SSI standard; or
 - Likely to meet the SSI disability criteria.

- The Pregnant Women Assistance (PW) program provides cash assistance to women who are not otherwise eligible for TANF and are pregnant.



Other Requirements

- Develop rules to clearly define the disability standard used to determine if someone is likely to meet the SSI criteria.
- Requires DSHS to do case reviews for all persons who have received Medical Care Services for 12 months and annually thereafter to determine if they meet the standard for Aged, Blind and Disabled.



ESHB 2082

Open Discussion

- Questions
- Ideas
- Concerns
- How can we partner to implement these changes and meet the needs of people who will be impacted by them?
- How can we partner to communicate these changes to you and those affected by these changes?



Break

~ 10 Minutes ~





Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5921

(Chapter 42, Laws of 2011, 1st Ex. Sess.)

An Act Relating to Social Services



WorkFirst and ESSB 5921

Core Tenets/Assumptions

- Achieving stable and successful employment for WorkFirst participants;
- A family-centered case planning and engagement approach to achieve good outcomes and reduce long-term dependency and generational poverty within families.
- Recognize the critical role and responsibility of participants in their children's development, foster the healthy growth and development of children, and promote family stability.
- WorkFirst is a transitional, not long-term, program to assist families on the pathway to self-sufficiency.
- Leveraging non-TANF resources is crucial to achieving the goals of WorkFirst



WorkFirst Program Goals

Program Goals and Measurement Recommendations will be Provided to the Subcabinet and the Legislative / Executive Task Force

- Kids are doing well (child welfare and early learning)
- Parents are doing well socially (housing, medical, chemical dependency, mental health)
- Parents are doing well economically(employment, job retention, wage progression, educational attainment levels)



July 2011 WorkFirst Program Initiatives

- Temporary Suspension of Participation (ESSB 5921, Section 2)
- Expansion of Work Activities (ESSB 5921, Section 8)
- Child Support Participation Requirement for WCCC Recipients (ESSB 5921, Sections 9-11)
- Career Scope Pilots (WorkFirst Redesign Recommendation 5)
- Implementation of Two New Commerce Programs (WorkFirst Redesign Recommendation 5)
- State Board for Community and Technical College Changes (WorkFirst Redesign Recommendation 5)

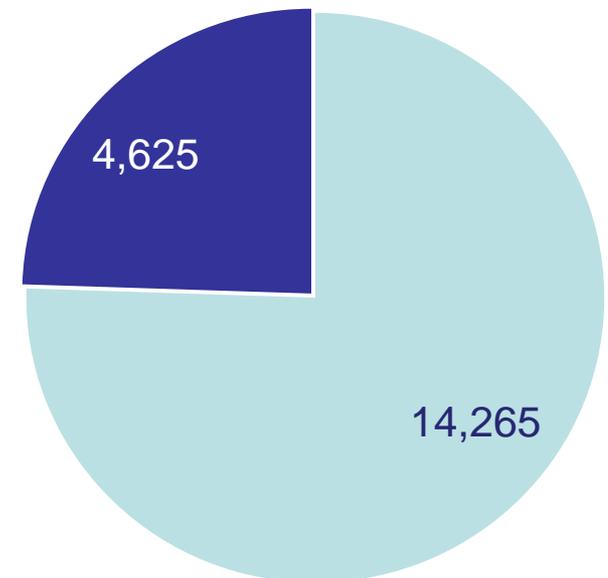


July 2011 Implementation Participation Suspension

- In alignment with WorkFirst core tenets, parents will be encouraged to participate.
- Parents will be placed in participation suspension upon request.
- Supports such as transportation and child care are not available to parents in participation suspension.
- Participation suspension does not stop the 60-month TANF time clock.
- Re-engagement will begin in July 2012.

Suspension Population as of April 2011

■ Non-Exempt ■ Infant Exemption



July 2011 Implementation—Expanded Work Activities

Expanded Work Activities

- The definition of Community Services programs has been expanded to include volunteer service at a child's licensed child care or preschool and parent education service or programs that support development of parenting skills, life skills, and employment-related competencies



July 2011 Implementation—Support Enforcement Services for Recipients of WCCC or other Subsidized Child Care

- All child care subsidy program applicants or recipients must seek Child Support Enforcement services unless they have good cause.
- Eligible applicants have 30 days to apply for Support Enforcement services. Child care subsidy is provided during this period.
- Child care assistance will be terminated for children whose parents do not cooperate in the collection of child support.



WorkFirst Redesign

July 2011 Implementation—Career Scope, New Commerce Programs

Employment Security--Career Scope Pilots

- Four-phased approach to employment service delivery
- Flexible, participant-centered approach
- Pilots will begin in six sites across the state

New Commerce Programs

New programs to meet needs of targeted populations:

- **Job Connection Program**
 - Up to 3 months paid subsidized employment
 - Targeted job hunting activities
 - Mentoring
- **Career Development Program**
 - Up to 12 months unpaid work activity
 - Supports engagement in an education pathway



Additional WorkFirst Redesign—Educational Changes

Workforce Development:

- Develops career pathways leading to self-sufficiency
- Encourages engagement and completion of educational tracks
- Increases utilization of programs that support the 21st century economy

Engagement that Matters:

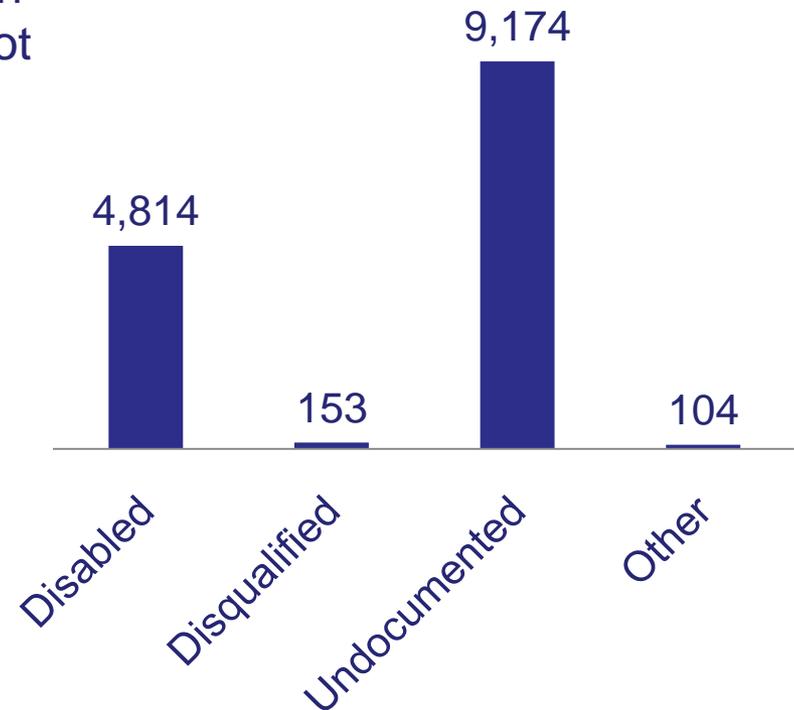
- Moves from participation that counts to engagement that matters
- Provides access to programs that support families with young children
- Provides a more flexible menu of activities (such as volunteering in ECEAP or Head Start with their children)
- Redefines and focuses on programs that support the specific needs of the whole family



September 2011 Implementation Child-Only TANF Time Limit

- Applies to child-only cases with a parent in the home. Does not impact child-only cases with a relative or other caretaker.
- Institutes 60-month limit.
- Parents may be eligible for a hardship extension.
- Interviews will be conducted with each affected family.

Child-Only Cases with
Parent in the Home as of
April 2011



November 2011 Implementation Means Testing Child-Only TANF

Applies to child-only TANF cases without parents in the home.

A sliding scale between 200% and 300% FPL determines maximum benefit amount:

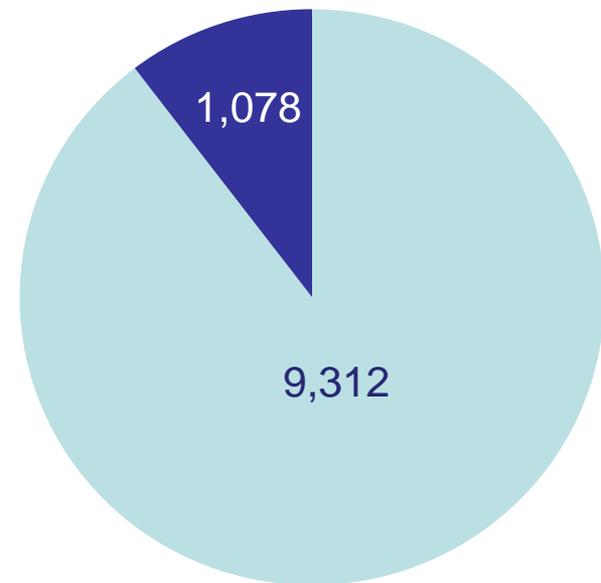
0 to 200%	\$305.00 maximum
201% to 225%	20% reduction
226% to 250%	40% reduction
251% to 275%	60% reduction
276% to 300%	80% reduction
Over 300%	Ineligible

4-Person Household Gross Income

200% FPL	\$3,275/mo or \$44,700/year
300% FPL	\$5,588/mo or \$67,050/year

Non-Parental Child-Only TANF Cases as of April 2011

■ Kinship ■ Legal Guardian



Additional ESSB 5921 WorkFirst Program Initiatives

- Section 7--Households that apply for TANF after December 1, 2011, will be ineligible for TANF if any adult in the household has been terminated for Non-Compliance three times
- Section 12 – Report and Recommendations regarding child care tracking and service delivery (Report to Legislature December 2011; implementation estimated January 2013).
- Section 13 – Financial Literacy Plan (Report to Legislature December 2011) and Fee Disclosure.
- Section 27 – Employee Incentive Pilot (January 2012).



ESSB 5921

EBT, Fraud, and Accountability Initiatives

- Establishes the Office of Fraud and Accountability within the Office of the Secretary of DSHS
- Implements EBT purchase and use regulations that prohibit the following use:
 - Tattoos, body piercing or body art
 - Cigarettes or tobacco products
 - Liquor or alcohol
 - Gambling
 - Bail bonds
 - Adult entertainment
- Enhances accountability and program integrity



WorkFirst/ESSB 5921 Open Discussion

- Questions
- Ideas
- Concerns
- How can we partner to implement these changes and meet the needs of people who will be impacted by them?
- How can we partner to communicate these changes to you and those affected by these changes?



Thank you for coming!

- Look for more meetings in the fall and winter.
- Please send additional feedback or comments to:
 - For 2082: **2082@DSHS.WA.GOV**
 - For 5921: **5921@DSHS.WA.GOV**

