

Temporary Assistance For Needy Families Strategic Planning Guiding Principles

From April to November, 2014 the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Strategic Planning Steering Committee will engage in a process of developing a 5 year strategic plan for the TANF program. The process, which will include five public, in-person meetings will be conducted according to the following guiding principles:

Transparent, open & fair

The process will be open to the public and the information used in decision making will be publically available. Every effort will be made to solicit input from all interested parties.

Clear expectations & roles

Expectations and roles for stakeholders, steering committee, facilitator and DPHHS partners will be clearly outlined at the beginning of the process.

Participant informed

The process will systematically solicit honest, in-depth feedback from current and past participants in the TANF program.

Plain, understandable language

We will avoid using jargon and complicated acronyms to make the dialogue understandable to all participants and stakeholders.

Stakeholder informed

The process will include ample time for current, past and potential contractors, both in and out of state, to provide feedback.

Accountable

Any reasonable questions or concerns raised by participants or stakeholders will be addressed by the steering committee and/or the TANF program.

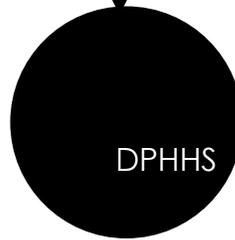
Temporary Assistance For Needy Families Strategic Planning Roles and Responsibilities



Inform



Advise



- Provide honest feedback and input that informs the entire strategic planning process
- Respect the right of all groups, particularly participants, to provide input
- Expect that steering committee will use stakeholder feedback to inform strategic planning process

- Systematically solicit and collect stakeholder input
- Consider evidence based models and recommend data driven approaches
- Consider history of Montana's program and develop a vision for the future
- Ensure that stakeholder input and evidence based approaches are incorporated into 5 year TANF Strategic Plan submitted to DPHHS

- Listen carefully to input and recommendations from stakeholders and steering committee
- Ensure that input is solicited and collected systematically
- Approve strategic plan and implement
- Educate legislature about strategic plan and advocate for appropriations consistent with plan

- Don't waste people's time
- Maintain focus
- Ensure equitable participation
- Clarify expectations
- Facilitate organized and transparent process
- Write first draft of the strategic plan

Temporary Assistance
For Needy Families
Strategic Plan
Guiding Principles

Participant Driven and Client Directed

Plan is primarily informed by participant input and designed to best serve the client population. Plan focuses on support and self sufficiency of needy families.

Clear Purpose and Objectives

Plan outlines purpose for TANF program and block grant funds consistent with agreed upon core values.

Data Driven and Evidence Based

Plan is based on best available research and best practice models and recommends strategies to collect outcome data for future decision making.

Business Orientation

Plan focuses on streamlining processes to serve the most clients with the best possible results, while reducing administrative costs and overhead.

Sustainable

Plan outlines a long-range strategy for carry over funds and ensures protection of "rainy day" funds during times of economic downturn.

Administratively Manageable & Systematic

Plan proposes a framework for TANF projects that is complementary, integrated, and interdependent.

Targeted and Effective

Plan is strategically designed to achieve the overarching purpose of the TANF funds.

Efficient and Accountable

Plan focuses on the effective use of TANF funds.