

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: Strategic Planning

June 18th, 2014

Introductions

- Wifi: Hledt0603

Today's Agenda

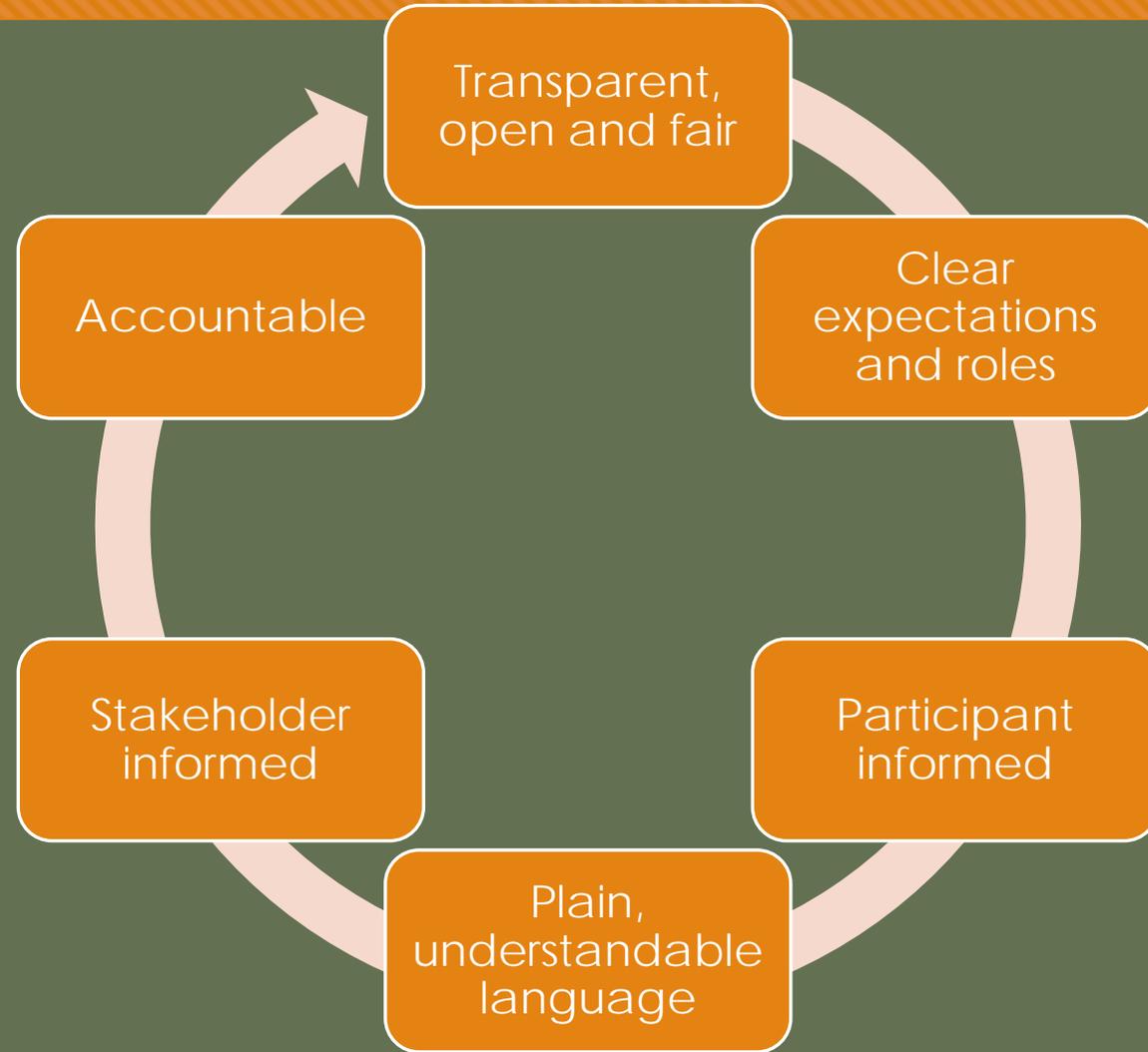
Today's Objectives

Gain a national perspective on TANF and compare MT's program to other state's

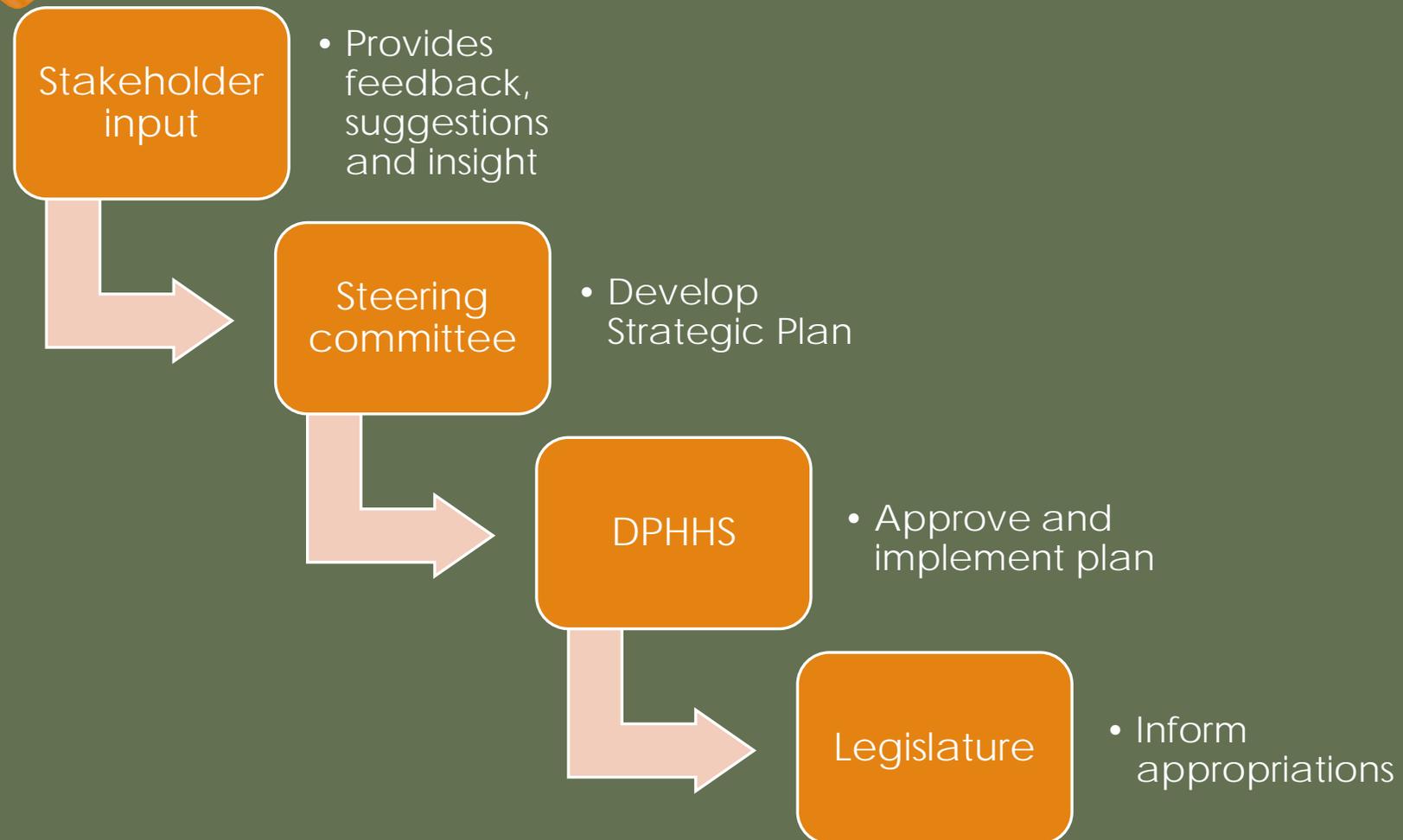
Discuss the purpose and target audience for Montana's TANF program

Conduct a listening session with Montana's TANF contractors

Guiding Principles: Strategic Planning Process



Roles and Responsibilities



Data collection plan for Strategic Plan

Current TANF program data reports

One page summaries and listening session with contractors

Focus groups with contractors and interested parties

Focus groups with TANF cash participants

Survey of TANF cash and non-cash participants

- Compiled by MT TANF program
- Emailed to committee on 6/13

- Summaries solicited from contractors in May
- Compiled & emailed to committee on 6/13
- Listening session on afternoon of 6/18

- 3 sessions conducted by Bloom Consulting
- Billings, Butte, Glasgow

- 4 sessions conducted by Bloom Consulting
- Butte, Glasgow, Hardin and Lame Deer

- Online and paper survey made available through WoRC and other contractors to participants

Meeting Topics and Timeline

June 18th

National perspectives,
purpose and target
audiences, contractor
listening session



July 16th

Measures of success,
findings from focus
groups of participants
and stakeholders



July 30th

Findings from surveys
of participants,
discussion of SP
purpose, audience &
framework

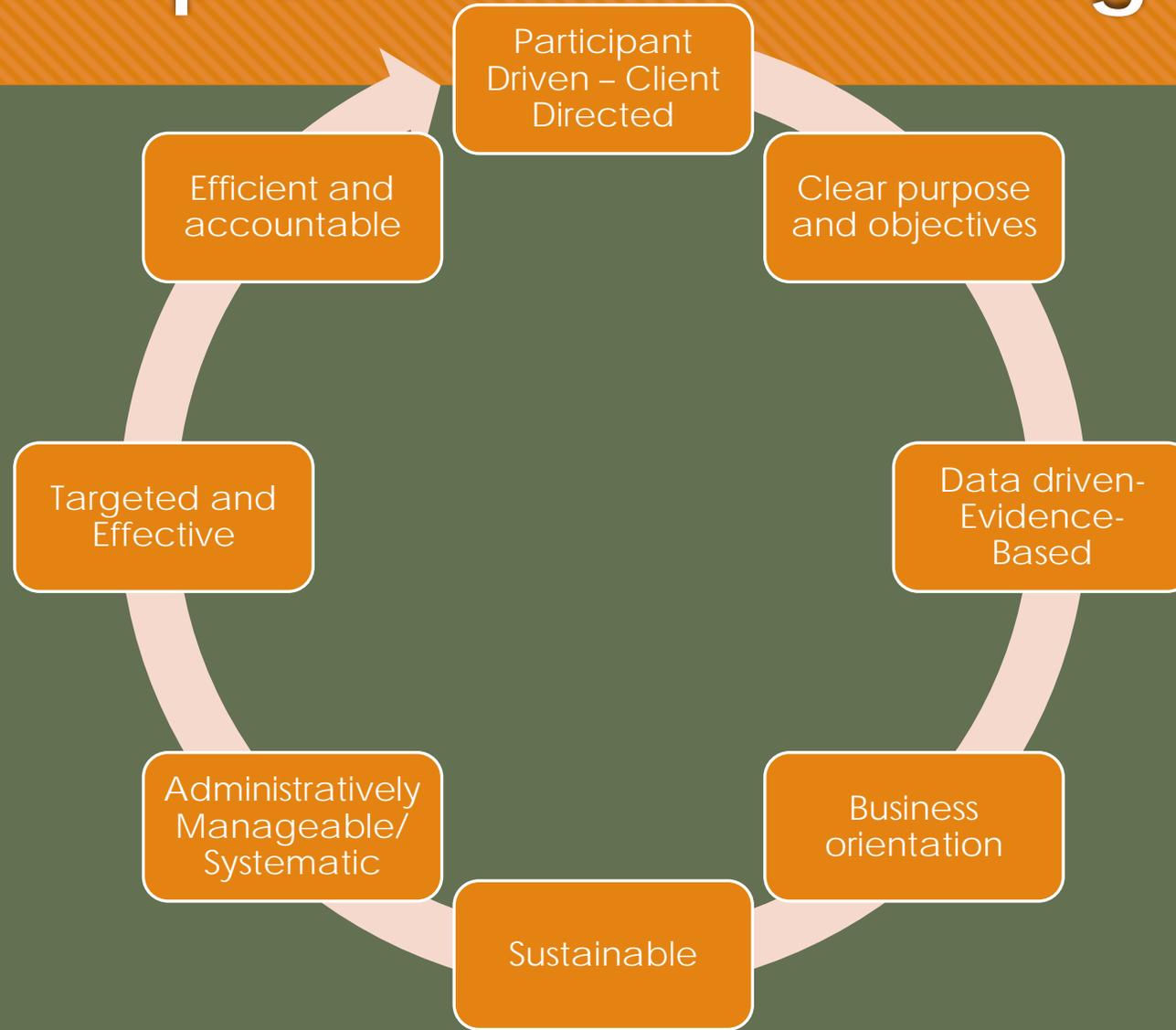
Meeting Topics and Timeline

August 30th
Finalize
recommendations
and framework for
Strategic Plan



September-November
Write and approve
Strategic Plan

Guiding Principles: Finished Strategic Plan



Explanation of financial charts

Questions?

What is the target audience of Montana
TANF?

Cash Assistance Client

Mother with 2 children



- Annual income: less than \$5,556
- Cash benefit: \$510/month, \$6,120/year
- Work requirements: Minimum average of 27-33 hours per week
- Limit of 60 months benefit over lifetime
- Assistance with child care as well as supportive services (max \$1250/year)
- Goal: Financial stability (able to meet basic needs like food, housing, childcare)

Non-Assistance Client Example

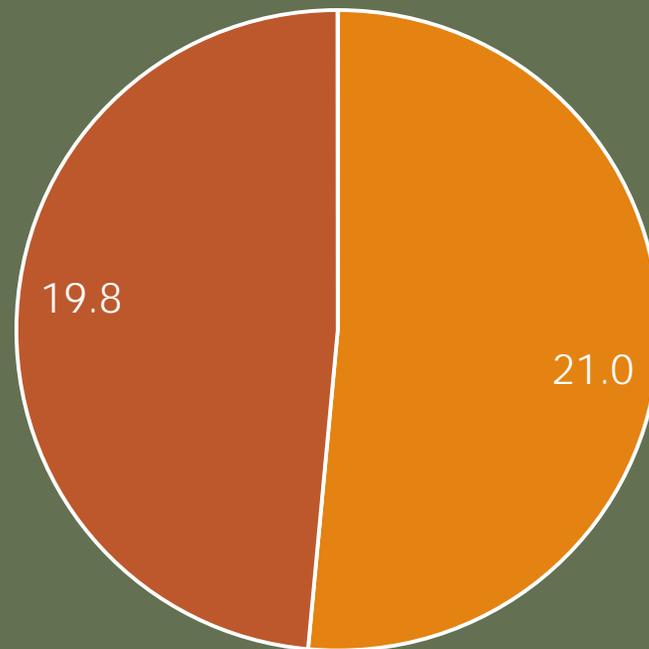
Mother with 2 children



- Annual income: less than \$37,060
- FES clients must have resolved transportation, housing and childcare barriers (already financially stable)
- Short term help with education, financial literacy, savings, employment training-no cash benefit except for matched savings
- Cost per client of ~\$500-\$6000
- Goal=Financial security (savings, higher earning job, financial literacy)

What percentage of TANF dollars in Montana are going to each target audience?

Annual expenditure (millions)



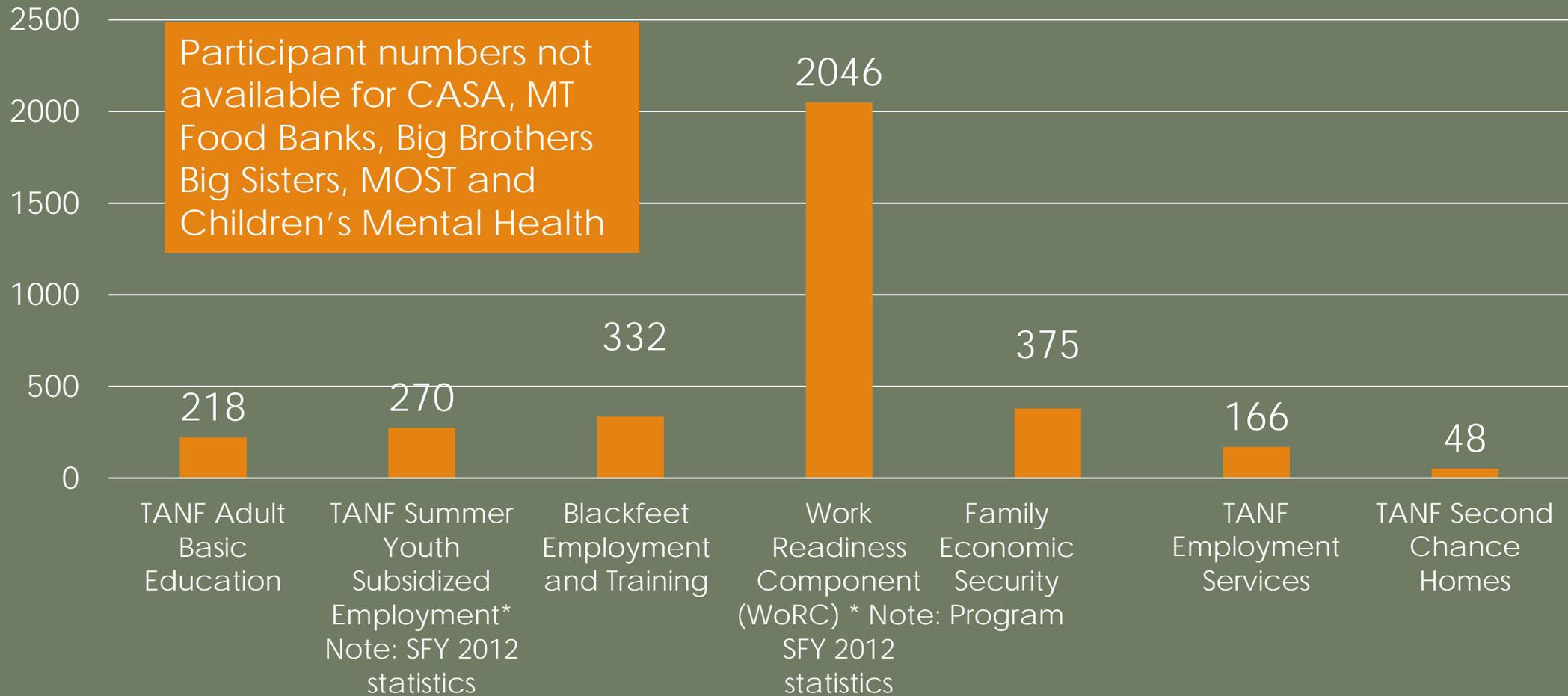
■ TANF Cash ■ Not TANF Cash ■ ■

Another Target: Youth



- Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- CASA
- Montana Out of School Projects
- Student Assistance Foundation (financial literacy education for teens)
- Second Chance Home (pregnant and parenting teens)
- Summer youth employment program
- Youth programs fall on the non-assistance side of TANF

Number of Enrolled Participants among Non-Assistance Contractors and WoRC Contractors



Annual cost per participant enrolled in program



Different perspectives



Four Purposes of TANF

1. Provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives;
2. End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage;
3. Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual numerical goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies; and
4. Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Questions for steering committee

Who do you think should be the target audience for TANF?

Is our current program effectively reaching that audience?

What do you think should be overarching purpose of TANF in Montana?

Do you think we are currently achieving that purpose with our current structure?

Questions for contractors

- How can you make your clients more aware of other resources that might help them? How can be systematic about connecting clients to resources and ensure they are being treated like people and not another case? We feel like we are being processed not being consulted.
- How can we make clients aware about the programs that are going to actually help them meet their goals?
- Why are we meeting a smaller % of the very poor families in MT with cash benefits?

Questions for contractors

How do you work with the TANF field office?

How do you reach your participants (are participants referred, do they find the contractor themselves, does the contractor do outreach?)

How are you integrating your services with other TANF assistance and non-assistance programs?

Questions for contractors

- What are some of the specific regulations that make it difficult for you to serve clients?
- How might we buffer so that great programs don't all the sudden drop off?
- How can we better coordinate with resources and services (eg Extension, universities) and ensure that clients have access to the full range of services offered
- What WOULD you do if you could be creative to help clients?
- What are some of the BIGGEST unmet needs you see for your clients?
- WoRC contractors-why the high level of unpaid work?

Timeline

April 23rd
Introductory Steering
Committee meeting



June 18th-
National perspectives,
purpose and target
audiences, contractor
listening session



July 16th-
Measures of success,
findings from focus
groups of participants
and stakeholders

July 30th-
Findings from surveys of
participants, discussion
of SP purpose,
audience & framework



August 13th-
Finalize
recommendations and
framework for Strategic
Plan



September-November
Write and approve
Strategic Plan