



National Association of State TANF Administrators

an affiliate of the American Public Human Services Association

NASTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 12-14, 2010

Charleston, SC

DRAFT AGENDA

As of 8/2/10

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2010

Morning

Joint sightseeing outing with American Association of Public Welfare Attorneys (AAPWA)

Cruise to Fort Sumter

Boat leaves at 9:30 – returns approx. 11:45

1:00 – 1:30

Welcome and Introductions

Russell Sykes, Deputy Commissioner, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance and NASTA Chair

1:30 – 5:00

Closed Session

Including but not limited to:

- Review of changes to NASTA by-laws
- Review of TANF Reauthorization work
- Legislative update
- Emergency Fund
- Update on program access measures
- General roundtable discussion
- Impact of Health Care Reform on TANF

Taking the Reins: Discussion with Newly Minted TANF Directors About Taking on TANF in the “Great Recession”

Operating a state TANF agency is complicated to begin with; however, operating a TANF agency during a recession as significant as what we are seeing now has been a challenge for even the most seasoned TANF administrator. Hear how new TANF administrators have been managing their new responsibilities as well as input from experienced administrators on how they've been managing their programs through a complicated period.

- Moderator: Russ Sykes (NY)
- Panelists: Paul Dragon (VT)
- Jennifer Hrycyna (IL)

6:00 – 8:00 **Joint Reception with AAPWA**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

8:00 – 9:30 **Breakfast/Joint Plenary with AAPWA**
Speaker: Mark Greenberg, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, HHS-ACF

9:30 – 11:00 **Meeting with HHS-ACF**
Conversation with Mark Greenberg and Earl Johnson, Director of the Office of Family Assistance

11:00 -12:30 **Roundtable Discussion: Implementing Effective Subsidized Employment Programs for TANF Participants**

12:30 – 1:30 **NASTA Lunch**

1:30 – 3:00 **Joint Session - NASTA and AAPWA**
TANF and the ADA
Moderator: Roy Esnard (NYC)
Panelists: Donna Pavetti (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities)
Janice Peters (WI)

3:30-5:00 **The Future of TANF Research and How it Might Impact Agency Operation**

A significant amount of time, money and energy has been devoted to the development of empirical research designed to help all levels of government make informed policy decisions on programs designed to help individuals with barriers to work as well as convey this evidence to front line staff as they work with clients. This session will briefly review the ongoing research initiatives being run by the Administration for Children and families as well as provide a glimpse at future research projects in addition to spotlighting how research has been implemented by TANF directors to better inform staff and make programmatic improvements.

OPRE research overview
Mark Fucello (HHS –Office of Planning Research Evaluation)

Utah research
Helen Thatcher (UT)
Mary Beth Vogel-Ferguson, PhD (University of Utah)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2010

8:00-9:15

Working with State Legislatures

Many decisions that impact the state TANF block grant program originate in the state legislature – sometimes it's clear where the state legislature might be heading, other times, not so clear. Hear from those who work closely at state legislatures on what issues state legislatures will be focused on in the coming year as well as how best to work together with your state legislatures.

Moderator: Paul Lefkowitz (TN)

Panelists: Jack Tweedie, NCSL (confirmed)

Jennifer Hrycyna (IL)

Linda Martin (SC) (Invited)

9:15-9:30

Break

9:30-10:30

Role of TANF with Refugee Population

One of the more vulnerable populations served by income support programs are refugees who have resettled in the United States. Both the TANF program and the Office of Refugee Resettlement work with these families as they require financial support as well as work supports in order to make the transition into a stable life in their new country. Hear examples of how state TANF administrators have been able to coordinate with their Refugee services to help these families that are facing such unique barriers.

Moderator: Kevin Richards (CO)

Panelists: To be announced.

10:30

Adjourn