

Prevention, Retention and Contingency Program for Washington County

Situations happen in every household when unplanned expenses arise which weren't anticipated. For many households, these unplanned expenses are met by utilizing their savings or by borrowing the money and paying it back over time.

For those living at or near poverty, unplanned expenses can pose disaster, as there may be no savings or credit ability to attain the money to meet the unplanned expense.

The challenge is to help the poor households of the county without absorbing the total household's responsibility for the unplanned expense.

In Washington County, we accepted the challenge by starting a model program on October 1, 1997 called Prevention, Retention and Contingency (PRC).

This PRC Plan is funded, in whole or in part, by federal funds provided under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, commonly known as Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). As such, use of the TANF funds for programs is predicated upon the program achieving at least one (1) of the overarching goals of the TANF program as shown below:

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

QUALIFICATION, ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION

NON-FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Must have a minor child as defined by OWF or an adult pregnant woman in the household; or a non-custodial parent of a minor child in which paternity has been established, is cooperating with the child support enforcement agency in establishing a support order and an employment related need exists; or a non-custodial parent of a minor child who is ordered into the Employment Program by a Court within Washington County or referred by the Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency (WCCSEA) and is complying with the Employment Program to find a job. However, if program meets either or both TANF goal three or four, then

the County reserves the right to designate any household composition or any income limits.

2. Household composition will be determined by including all who live in the household.
3. PRC is restricted to eligible payments made to qualified households over a 30-day period of time within a 12 consecutive month cycle, unless otherwise noted. However, if previous PRC payments were totally repaid to the county via cash payments, the 12 consecutive month cycle will be ignored. Conversely, the 12 consecutive month cycle will be extended indefinitely for those households that contain an adult who received a previous PRC payment as an adult which was not fully repaid by any of the three (3) repayment methods listed below.
4. Those households containing an adult who previously received assistance under another Ohio county PRC program or another states emergency assistance program within the past 12 months will be restricted from obtaining PRC assistance for non-employment related items until 12 months of time has transpired since the last authorization of PRC or emergency assistance benefits. In addition, if another Ohio County had conditions on receipt of their PRC benefits, those conditions will continue in effect in Washington County if known to the agency.

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Total gross household income for necessary **employment** related needs can't exceed 150% of the monthly Federal Poverty Guidelines as indicated on CRIS-E based on household size. Only earned income of a minor child who is attending up through a secondary school, any student loans/grants for any household member and payments issued to a support payee on or after March 1, 2001 by the state of Ohio as reimbursement for child support in accordance with the provisions set forth in Amended Substitute Senate Bill 170 of the 124th General Assembly and with approval by the Governor are excluded from the gross income determination. A 30-day budget period will be used and begins 30 days prior to the date of application and ends on the date of application. Reasonable attempts will be made by the agency to verify income. Repayment agreement must be signed by every adult household member prior to PRC issuance with household making choice of paying back the total amount issued for PRC by either (1) regular payments, (2) donating a specified number of volunteer hours to designated needs within the county, or (3) a combination of both. The PRC authorized by the WCDJFS plus any additional needed payments by the client must be sufficient to purchase the service and to not create an obvious repayment hardship for the household at a later date. Failure to repay may result in legal actions. For those choosing the option to volunteer hours for community needs, applicants may need to obtain a site prior to the authorization of PRC in which they and the site are willing to allow the PRC recipient to serve their hours. The site will then be reviewed by the agency to determine if it is acceptable and may approve it or designate another volunteer site.

2. Total gross household income for **non-employment** related needs that threaten the safety or health of the household can't exceed 100% of the monthly Federal Poverty Guidelines as indicated on CRIS-E based on household size. Only earned income of a minor child who is attending up through a secondary school, any student loans/grants for any household member and payments issued to a support payee on or after March 1, 2001 by the state of Ohio as reimbursement for child support in accordance with the provisions set forth in Amended Substitute Senate Bill 170 of the 124th General Assembly and with approval by the Governor are excluded from the gross income determination. A 30-day budget period will be used and begins 30 days prior to the date of application and ends on the date of application. Reasonable attempts will be made by the agency to verify income. Repayment agreement must be signed by every adult household member prior to PRC issuance with household making choice of paying back the total amount issued for PRC by either (1) regular payments, (2) donating a specified number of volunteer hours to designated needs within the county, or (3) a combination of both. The PRC authorized by the WCDJFS plus any additional needed payments by the client must be sufficient to purchase the service and to not create an obvious repayment hardship for the household at a later date. Failure to repay may result in legal actions. For those choosing the option to volunteer hours for community needs, applicants may need to obtain a site prior to the authorization of PRC in which they and the site are willing to allow the PRC recipient to serve their hours. The site will then be reviewed by the agency to determine if it is acceptable and may approve it or designate another volunteer site.

Applicants Ineligible for PRC

1. Single people (unless noted), childless couples (unless noted) and parents without a minor child (unless noted) with exception of employed non-custodial parents of a minor child or a non-custodial parent of a minor child who is ordered into the Employment Program by a Court within Washington County or by the Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency (WCCSEA) and is complying with the Employment Program to find a job is eligible. Short-term cost incurred by agency to determine if non-custodial parent will comply is reimbursable to the agency.
2. Households containing a fugitive felon or probation/parole violator
3. Households containing an individual with any outstanding OWF fraud or PRC fraud or Child Care fraud overpayment balance
4. Households containing an individual who is ineligible for this or any other assistance program due to non-compliance with the terms of their assistance
5. Households containing an individual who is under sanction on the OWF program unless due to current income into the household they would be financially ineligible for OWF if no sanction were imposed or if all adults in the assistance group are currently employed at 40 hours per week at no less than minimum wage.
6. Households containing any adult or minor head of household who quits a job is ineligible for a 90-day period from date of quit except where good cause has been established per 5107.26 of the Ohio Revised Code
7. Households containing any adult or minor head of household who has been fired within 90 days of application due to willful actions on the employees part to cause the employer to fire them.
8. A non-graduate parent under 18 not attending high school or equivalent

9. A parent under 18 not living in an adult supervised setting
10. A person found to have fraudulently misrepresented residence in order to obtain assistance in two or more states are ineligible for 10 years.
11. If a member of a PRC household exhausts all of their federal and state time limits for OWF cash assistance, the household would only be eligible for necessary employment related needs under the PRC program.
12. Because the PRC Program is funded with federal Title IV-A block grant funds, no medical expenses for applicants are covered except pre-pregnancy family planning services or as permitted by state and/or federal law.
13. Residence outside of Washington County, Ohio with exception that a non-custodial parent of a minor child who is ordered into the Employment Program by a Court within Washington County or referred by the Washington County Child Support Enforcement Agency (WCCSEA) and is complying with the Employment Program to find a job may live outside of Washington County, but needs to be within State of Ohio.
14. Any household which contains an illegal alien.
15. Households containing an adult member that is unwilling to sign the application and/or the repayment agreement.

BENEFIT LEVELS & QUALIFICATIONS

Maximum payment for PRC approved items will be determined by the following: Participants ability to repay the amount loaned. Items required are prudent and necessary. All yearly PRC participant payments are within the agency PRC budget. A maximum of \$1,800.00 per 12 consecutive month period per eligible PRC household, with no more than \$800.00 of that amount per 12 consecutive month period being spent on non- employment related needs will be issued based on the following:

1. Criteria for employment related benefits would be determined based on need and income. For those whose household income is less than 50% of the Federal Poverty Level as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 100% of the maximum eligible payments. For those whose household income is 50% of the Federal Poverty Level and less than 75% as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 80% of the maximum eligible payments. For those whose household income is 75% of the Federal Poverty Level and less than 100% as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 60% of the maximum eligible payments. For those whose household income is 100% of the Federal Poverty Level but less than 125% as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 40% of the maximum eligible payments. For those whose household income is 125% of the Federal Poverty Level and up to 150% as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 20% of the maximum eligible payments. Those household incomes greater than 150% will not be eligible for employment related PRC.
2. Criteria for non-employment related benefits would be determined based on need and income. For those whose household income is less than 50% of the Federal Poverty Level as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 100% of the maximum eligible payments. For those whose household income

is 50% of the Federal Poverty Level and less than 75% as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 80% of the maximum eligible payments. For those whose household income is 75% of the Federal Poverty Level and up to 100% as indicated on CRISE, they will be eligible for up to 60% of the maximum eligible payments. Those household incomes greater than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level will not be eligible for non-employment related PRC. Households who present a bill for PRC payment and have themselves failed to make a payment for three or more consecutive months are ineligible for PRC unless reasonable cause can be documented for the non-payment and this reasonable cause is accepted and approved by the WCDJFS.

3. Up to three quotes for any single purchased item that exceeds \$250.00 in cost for either employment or non-employment related PRC may be required of the applicant to obtain prior to PRC being authorized.
4. If state or federal programs are available to meet participant needs (i.e., HEAP, etc.); participants must utilize those services before utilizing PRC.
5. The maximum benefits allowable under the Washington County PRC plan items may be waived in unusual circumstances, as defined by the department, and approved by the Director of the WCDJFS.

AGENCY PROCEDURES

1. Eligibility will be determined within three business days.
2. Eligibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis in consideration of the presenting need of the PRC AG.
3. Will inform PRC applicants about other available programs (i.e., Medicaid and Food Stamps and child care) and hearing rights that are applicable.
4. If eligibility is established, an agency representative will authorize payment for assistance, goods, and/or services. Actual payment will be done at a later date and according to procedures in place at the WCDJFS.
5. Appropriate information will be available for an audit trail.
6. If eligibility for PRC is established, the WCDJFS will mail or deliver the ODJFS 4074, Notice of Approval of Your Application for Assistance. If it is determined that an Application for PRC is denied, the WCDJFS will mail or otherwise deliver the ODJFS 7334, Notice of denial of Your Application for Assistance.
7. If an employed non-custodial parent is not currently paying child support, then WCDJFS will report all current employment to CSEA prior to approval.
8. We will help you if English is not your primary language. Persons who cannot, or have difficulty speaking or understanding the English language are protected against discrimination based on national origin. We may also be able to provide you oral or written translation of documents.
9. Charitable Choice: The CDJFS has agreements with other agencies to provide services to families who may be receiving PRC or act as worksites to families receiving OWF. Some of the services or worksites may be held at religious agencies, such as churches. If you do not want to go to a religious agency for services or as your worksite, your worker will provide you with another agency for your worksite or to provide services.

ADDITIONAL PRC PROGRAMS

1. HELP ME GROW (Youth, TANF goal #1)

Families with children under age three or prenatal mom who are enrolled via an application in the Washington County's Help Me Grow program are eligible provided household income for either doesn't exceed 200% of FPL and the program and its service components are administered per agreement between Washington County Commissioners, on behalf of Family and Children First, and the Ohio Department of Health. Given this is a change from 300% FPL, the children in households who are currently enrolled in HMG and whose household income are above 200% may remain eligible for services up to sixty (60) days following the approval of this change by the Washington County Commissioners, provided all other eligibility factors for the program remains. In addition, a change to four (4) risk factors for TANF HMG eligibility will be instituted. The conditions on Help Me Grow are as follows:

- A. Services could include such items as home visits, transportation (non-cash payments for those not eligible for Medicaid Transportation Program at the WCDJFS), case management/service coordination, information and referral, parenting classes, group activities to enhance parenting skills and build support systems, child development screenings and respite care as examples of services. However, because the PRC Program is funded with federal Title IV-A block grant funds, no medical expenses are covered.
- B. Applications for services will be done by using a special and brief application (see attached) which will be utilized for this service and it will include a self-declared household yearly income which will determine if household is within county-determined eligibility range to allow this service to be provided and has a minor child under age three or prenatal mom in the residence.
- C. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off Help Me Grow services. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- D. Applicants ineligible for Help Me Grow will be 1, 2, 10, 12, 13, and 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

2. SCHOOL OUTREACH PREVENTION PROGRAM (Youth, TANF goals # 1&3)

The Washington County Children Services Board has a School Outreach Prevention Program and a Family Intervention Specialist Program in which they provide employees in the school districts to assist in identifying problems early with children and then work with families to help to resolve the problems before they move to a crisis stage. We wish to financially support this program with TANF funds.

- A. School Outreach Program, the Family Intervention Specialist Program and law enforcement will determine which children in the schools are at risk and will provide needed services to child and family to resolve the problem(s).

- B. Applications for services can be done by using either the application of the agency that does these programs, using the special and brief application (see attached) which will be utilized for this service or since this service helps prevent and reduce out-of-wedlock pregnancies, a roster of names could suffice. Rosters will need to have the students name, social security #, a parent name, parent social security # and the home address in order to report information to ODJFS. These rosters are to be turned in attached to each bill submitted to WCDJFS to cover the time in which the service is being billed. In whichever case, service can be provided without regard to income and notices regarding adverse action will not apply. It still remains that the services provided must be to a Washington County household that has a minor child in the residence and child has been determined to be at risk. Whatever application decided to be completed from above choices by the Washington County Children Services will be attached to the monthly invoice submitted to the Washington County Department of Job and Family Services for all new applicants for that month.
- C. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off services received under the School Outreach Prevention Program or the Family Intervention Specialist Program. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- D. Applicants ineligible for School Outreach Prevention Program and the Family Intervention Specialist Program will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

3. WAGE SUPPLEMENTATION (Employment and job readiness, TANF goals 1&2)

We may contract and reimburse companies for gross wages for selected new hire employees during a certain period of time in order to expand job opportunities for Washington County residents with a minor child in the household and whose household income is at or below 200% of the FPL. A special self-declared PRC application for each contracted employer will be used to determine eligibility of time limited gross wage assistance program and/or training program and/or probationary expenses program to eligible new hires. The company approved for contracting will list the name and social security number (if possible) of each new hire approved for this reimbursement of wages on each bill submitted to the Washington County Department of Job and Family Services for payment. Reimbursement for eligible new hires will be made only for as long as newly hired employee remains eligible for pay from the company and it is understood that reimbursement may take up to 30 days from date that bill is submitted by company to WCDJFS before payment is received by company. Terms of contract with company for wage reimbursement will only be allowed for a certain period of time and not to exceed a negotiated amount of funds. Bills can be submitted by company for reimbursement for the covered period of the contract. Any bills submitted for reimbursement after that covered period in contract will not be considered for payment.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off these services. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the

receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.

- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.
- C. Participation in this program does not preclude an employer from applying for or utilizing any other state or federal wage assistance or tax abatement program, but participation in this program may not supplant other programs.

4. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) INCENTIVES AND SUPPLEMENTS (Employment and job readiness, TANF goals #1&2)

In order to encourage adults and eligible youth who are more difficult to serve and/or harder to place and/or who have larger barriers to overcome in households at or below 200% of FPL with minor children in Washington County to participate in WIA eligible services, we want to have the ability to use WIA TANF Incentive and/or WIA Supplemental funding to assist eligible participants either directly or via contract for work or educational related items in an amount not to exceed \$500.00 per household. A self-declared PRC application must be completed by W-MCAA to determine if the Washington County household contains a minor child with household income not to exceed 200% of FPL and is eligible for this assistance. Services provided for those designated as eligible will be per the term of the contract between the WCDJFS and WMCAA. At least one of the TANF Goals *must* be met by the use of the WIA TANF Incentives and/or WIA Supplemental expenditure.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off these services. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

5. NURSING GRANT-IN-AID PROGRAM (Employment and job readiness, TANF goals #1&2&3&4)

Washington County Department of Job and Family Services will purchase Ohio Tuition Trust Authority credits. These credits will be used, once other available funding (PELL, WIA, OIG, etc.) is used first, to offset the cost of tuition for very specific and identified programs that benefit the county. The recipient must meet the requirements specified by the County, live in a qualified household with minor child where the self-declared household income is at or under 300% of FPL. Any student receiving assistance under this program must agree that, upon completion of their individual nursing, radiology or physical therapy program, will remain in and be employed in one of these fields in Washington County for one year.

- A. Prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

6. HEAD LICE ERADICATION PROGRAM (Youth, TANF Goals 1,2,3,4)

Fundamental to preparing a job ready workforce is regular school attendance. Head lice infestation can cause extended periods of school absence.

Our proposal does not blame child or household, as this can happen to any family regardless of circumstance. However, once the infestation occurs, we want to insure that the child and other family members are quickly and effectively treated and the affected child returns to the classroom as soon as possible. The less school missed, the better prepared the student will be to succeed from grade-to-grade and graduate on-time, ultimately prepared to enter the workforce.

To accomplish this, we will provide not only training for the application of available over-the-counter medications, but will also provide other items necessary to achieve complete eradication of head lice. These things may include: laundry detergent, coins for the Laundromat, sweeper bags to insure bags are changed frequently, loaner sweepers for use in homes where sweepers are not available, cleaning solutions, checking other family members and friends for head lice and follow-up visits to insure steady progress toward complete eradication of head lice from the family and a quick return of the student to the classroom.

In addition, as long as funding permits, we will provide head lice services to minor children not in school. Some of that focus will help in our efforts to keep people employed and on the job. In addition, we can work with child care providers and centers to serve as a referral channel for this program. By doing this additional outreach, we may also be able to prevent the spread of head lice to school age children. Lastly, funding for this program will include money for supplies and equipment which help in detection of infestation and would be charged to this program as well.

Services must be for a Washington County household with minor child(ren) without regard to household income, but if the cause of the head lice infestation is found to be another residence where the child(ren) has contact, then services may be provided to that residence, with the ability for services to extend beyond Washington County, if warranted.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off these services. Prior receipt of PRC services will not affect eligibility for these services. Future eligibility will not be affected by receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, and 14 as listed in the section entitled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

7. ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT CHILDREN’S SERVICES (TANF Goals 1,2,3,4)

WCDJFS has identified certain TANF Incentive funds as being available. In consultation with the Washington County Board of Commissioners, it has been decided to make these funds available to Washington County Children’s Services (CSB) for support of their ongoing efforts on behalf of families and children living in Washington County. These funds shall be used by CSB in a manner consistent with the purposes of TANF. As identified by CSB, those services which meet the goals of TANF Goals 1 & 2 will be available for those families in Washington County with a household income at or below 300% of the federal poverty level. As identified by CSB, those services which meet TANF Goals 3 & 4 will be available to families in Washington County without regard to income level. A self-declared PRC application or a list will be required to maintain record of the services provided, where necessary.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

8. CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM (TANF Goals 1,2,3,4)

The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services is a member of a consortium of local public and private agencies and employers who are working together to improve the entry of Washington County citizens into employment with specific career paths. These career paths include the use of work experience, post-secondary education and social support mechanisms to assist the individuals in moving up incrementally from minimum or low wage jobs to higher wage career type employment. The program will assist participants with skill profiling, barrier analysis, remedial educational services where necessary and other training and educational opportunities to assure participant success. Support from WCDJFS will be provided to participants with a minor child living in the household with a monthly household income at or below 300% of the federal poverty level. A self-declared PRC application or a list will be required to maintain record of the services provided, where necessary.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

9. SCHOOL CLOTHES PROGRAM (Youth, TANF goals #1&3)

We have received a one time opportunity to provide school clothes and shoes for some children in Washington County. An amount, to be determined once all applications are received, per eligible child is available to cover children who attend school outside of their home and are in grades K-12 during the school year of 2007-2008. In addition, the school age child must be a Washington County resident and either certified as approved and receiving the Ohio Medicaid card for the month of January 2007 or eligible for the Ohio Medicaid Card but chooses not to receive it for the month of January 2007. Applications were mailed to each child who was on Medicaid as of January 31, 2007. In order to determine the amount that was designated for each vendor, we had a deadline of 4:30 p.m. on March 30, 2007 for the forms to be turned in. We then worked on those submitted forms and determined eligibility. We will develop an approval letter, using the ODJFS 4074, Notice of Approval of Your Application for Assistance” as a model. If it is determined that the child is eligible, we will notify the parent in writing of the approval and the line of credit they would have available at the store they designated. All approvals and denials will be sent no later than November 1, 2007. It is required that only the children in school will be eligible for the above items when they are purchased and also that no exchanges for cash will be allowed. The PRC application for this program will be the approved Medicaid application on file with Washington County DJFS. In the event the household would have been eligible for the Medicaid card for the month of January 2007 WCDJFS will take an application to determine the eligibility but a Medicaid card for that month may not be issued.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off these services. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

10. ACCESS TO BETTER CARE (ABC) PROGRAM (TANF Goal 1)

The ABC Initiative provided \$500,000 in TANF funds statewide in HB 66 to help toward non-behavioral health service expenses for eligible children on a reimbursement basis. Washington County’s share of the statewide funding is initially set at \$5,600 per fiscal year. These funds by legislative directive will be contracted for Washington County Family and Children First through a contract with the Washington County Commissioners. A fully completed self-declared PRC application on each eligible child and signed off by the parent or close family relative must be obtained by FCF in order to access the use of these funds. Criteria for eligibility for these services are a Washington County minor child whose household income does not exceed 200% of FPL. Services not eligible for reimbursement are the following:

Medical Services
Out-of-home placement

Services that result from an adjudicated unruly or delinquent court finding

Expenditures may fit into one of the following three categories:

ABC Non-behavioral Service Coordination
ABC Non-behavioral Direct Services
ABC Non-behavioral Assessments

Non-behavioral shall be defined as multi need children who do not have a diagnosed substance abuse or mental health condition.

The TANF funding for this initiative meets at least one (1) of the four (4) TANF purposes, which is to provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

The Office of Family Stability determined that approximately \$44,000 in total ABC funding was available for redistribution during SFY 2006. Washington County's share of this additional funding was \$1917.00. Per previous legislative directive these additional funds will be contracted for Washington County Family and Children First through a contract with the Washington County Commissioners.

- A. Prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

11. EMERGENCY HEATING ASSISTANCE 05-06 (TANF Goal 1)

With the upcoming heating season approaching and with warnings regarding the much higher prices for home heating, a system to supplement households with minor children in Washington County who are eligible for HEAP and who heat with bulk fuel (propane and oil), wood, coal or unregulated utilities (such as Washington Electric Cooperative and smaller gas companies) would be of great assistance to low income families. This program will allow families who apply for HEAP at Washington Morgan Community Action and who heat with bulk fuel (propane and oil), wood, coal or unregulated utilities to apply for an additional maximum one-time assistance of \$350.00. WMCA will determine eligibility for the HEAP program for families who heat with bulk fuel, wood, coal or unregulated utilities.

Eligible households would be those who are eligible for HEAP and who heat with bulk fuel (propane and oil), wood, coal or unregulated utilities (such as Washington Electric Cooperative and smaller gas companies).

This program would be operated the same months as Emergency HEAP (November 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006).

Washington-Morgan Community Action will provide WCDJFS a copy of the approved self-declared PRC application.

An amendment to the Heap Supplement contract with Washington Morgan Community Action indicates that contract for first round stands as was stated, but a second round one-time payment for the primary source of heat for those initially determined in first round as being eligible, are allowed help in the second round with the following limits:

Propane/Fuel Oil	\$400
Wood/Coal	\$350
Unregulated Utilities	Current bill up to \$400
Regulated Utilities	\$250 (max)–current bill or PIPP payments for gas and electric

The State of Ohio extended the contract on Emergency HEAP through April 30, 2006; therefore WCDJFS will extend this program to operate through April 30, 2006.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off these services. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

12. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (TANF Goal 1&2)

The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services recognizes that many youth from disadvantaged households are at risk for dropping out of school, poor attendance records and other related problems associated with completing their high school education and moving into gainful employment.

The Washington County Career Center through this Youth Employment Program (YEP) will identify and reduce the employment barriers of area high school students enrolled in the YEP program. Services or goods to be provided will be in direct relationship to a need of the student in gaining or retaining employment (i.e. transportation, work clothing, work equipment, etc.).

Self-declared PRC applications for this program must be completed and signed by the parent or guardian. Eligibility is limited to those youths residing in Washington County who have a minor child living in the household and a monthly household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

13. PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS (TANF Goal 1)

The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services recognize that the local food pantries can easily provide non-perishable food items to low-income families. However, the food pantries do not have the space or equipment to store perishable items. In coordination with the various food pantries in Washington County, the Washington County Department of Job and Family Services will provide a one-time voucher or gift card not to exceed a value of \$50.00 to be redeemable for perishable items, specifically milk, meat, and eggs only. This program will operate from January 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006, or until funds are exhausted.

These one-time only voucher or gift card will be available to eligible families that reside in Washington County who have a minor child living in the household and a monthly household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level as listed on a self-declared PRC application.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

14. BROKER SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE YOUTHS (TANF Goal 1)

The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services sent out letters to a large list of people to obtain ideas on what would be the best way to help TANF eligible recipients in Washington County. We had a number of submissions, but in the case of services/programs/activities for kids there was a consistent thread between a number of the submissions. In an effort to be able to provide more services to the youths, WCDJFS contracted with a vendor to act as a broker. The vendor will develop an off-the-shelf and readily available list of youth services/programs/activities in which a posted price for enrollment is required. This list will be reviewed by WCDJFS and those which are approved by WCDJFS will be available for selection. Eligible household parents will select from the list a limited number of services/programs/activities for their child to actively participate and payment at the posted rate will then be paid to the vendor. WCDJFS reserves the right to limit the number of selections per child, so that more eligible children can participate. The contracted vendor will determine household eligibility based on the applicant living in Washington County with a minor child in the household and a monthly household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.

- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

15. GAS CARDS (TANF Goal 1 & 2)

The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services (WCDJFS) recognize that the high price of gasoline could put a financial burden on families that are working. It has been determined that there are approximately 650 food stamps recipients in Washington County who have earned income. WCDJFS will provide gas cards, not to exceed a value of \$200.00 (each card will be in \$100 denominations) per qualified time, to eligible households that receive food stamps in Washington County, have a minor child in the home, and have earned income from an adult who utilizes a car to get to and from work. The gas cards will be redeemable for gasoline only. In addition, eligibility for this program will be done during food stamp intake, redetermination of the food stamp eligibility, or when a change in employment has been reported. Once employment has been verified, and if the household continues to be eligible for food stamps and all other eligibility criteria's have been met, including completing a self-declared PRC application, then the gas cards will be given to the eligible household. Once the household receives the two gas cards, the household will be ineligible to receive additional cards until the next intake, redetermination, or change but no sooner than six months.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

16. APPALACHIAN GRANT (TANF Goals 1, 2, & 4)

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) will provide funding to each of the 29 Appalachian counties for the Appalachian Wage Subsidy Proposal. Each county will receive approximately \$107,000. Until The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services (WCDJFS) is eligible to utilize those funds, this program will be done with our own funds.

In order to expand job opportunities, WCDJFS would provide a \$1,000 bonus payment to both the employer and eligible adult who meet the criteria. The eligible adult must get a full time job (40 hours or whatever the Employer designates is full time for their business) and which pays \$7.50 or greater per hour. Once the new employee completes whatever is the probationary period for that job, then the employee and employer would be eligible for the one-time \$1,000 bonus payment. (NOTE: It is possible that an employer would be eligible for more than \$1,000 if that employer hired more than one eligible adult who met all the above criteria). The employee must live in Washington County with a minor child in the household and a monthly household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. A special self-declared PRC application (that will be the same for all 29 counties) must be

completed and turned into the WCDJFS no later than 30 days after the start of the qualifying job and will be used to determine eligibility. The last PRC application for this program will need to be taken prior to December 1, 2007 and those awaiting successful completion of their probationary period will be considered to do so by December 30, 2007, if their probationary period would have run longer than January 1, 2008.

WCDJFS reserves the right to use our own TANF funds in the event that an applicant would not qualify for Appalachian Funds.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

17. SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (TANF Goals 1 & 2)

In an effort to encourage employment for low income youths, in Washington County, WCDJFS has provided funding for wage subsidy. The Washington Morgan Community Action, through the Summer Youth Employment Program, will obtain private sector employers to provide subsidized employment for low income youths. Community Action will secure employment in the private sector for eligible youths for approximately 2 months. Wage for youth would be \$5.15 an hour, not to exceed 40 hours per week. WCDJFS will provide funding for Community Action to reimburse the private sector employer. It is the hope of WCDJFS that when the wage subsidy is done, the private sector employer will opt to keep some of the youths part time while they go back to school (with school attendance being stressed by employer).

Self-declared PRC applications for this program must be completed and signed by the parent or guardian. Eligibility is limited to those youths residing in Washington County who have a minor child living in the household and a monthly household income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

18. STUDENT INTERVENTION TANF DEMONSTRATION (TANF Goals 1 & 2)

As a result of a joint effort of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) funding was provided to the Washington County

Department of Job and Family Services (WCDJFS) to support student intervention initiatives for TANF eligible individuals. Funding availability is for the period ending June 30, 2007. WCDJFS is responsible for contracting with the local school districts identified by ODE.

The local school district shall financially qualify all participating children. Proof of eligibility shall be provided to WCDJFS by the following: a roster of the children participating in the student intervention program, and who have been determined eligible for the free or reduced lunch program. The roster shall clearly identify the name of the school providing the program services, the child's name, the parents' name(s), address, and the child's date of birth. Additionally, the roster shall clearly note that all students on the list have been determined financially eligible for the free or reduced lunch program. Applications must be secured and retained by the school for each child, and shall be made readily available to WCDJFS or ODJFS upon request. The applicant household must reside in Washington County and have a minor child living in the household under age 18.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

19. PRC PAYMENT PROGRAM (TANF Goals 1, 2, & 4)

Where it is deemed by WCDJFS that we should make an offer to a Washington County Work Required OWF participant to voluntarily take a monthly PRC payment instead of being on the OWF program, the following will occur:

1. Monthly PRC Payment Program will not exceed four (4) months maximum per HH per year.
2. Monthly PRC Payment will equal no more than what the HH would have been eligible for in cash assistance under OWF in any of the participating months.
3. Participating clients will sign to acknowledge voluntarily choosing to be on Monthly PRC Payment Program. In addition, they will need to specify to which adult in the qualifying household the check will be written to and mailed monthly while on this program. This information needs to get to Fiscal Department, so they can make the payments timely.
4. Prior receipt of PRC will not disqualify someone from participating in this program or in future PRC programs, provided they meet eligibility to do so.
5. WCDJFS reserves the right to require Monthly PRC Payment participants to do work assignments based on their ability to do so.
6. Monthly PRC Payment Program is limited to OWF eligible households with an OWF work required adult who has been determined by a qualified medical provider that the adult can not do work assignments outside of the home.
7. Casemanager will be responsible to ensure that OWF ceases and PRC Payment begins without duplicative or untimely payments. In addition, once the PRC Payment ends

and if client remains still eligible for OWF, that Casemanager ensures client is returned to OWF without duplicative or untimely payments.

8. PRC Payment Program is allowable after other options are pursued via group discussion that this option would be the best and signed off as approved by Director or Assistant Director

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

20. TANF TWO-PARENT HOUSEHOLD INCENTIVE (TANF Goals 1, 2, & 4)

The Washington County Department of Job and Family Services received additional TANF funding to enhance county work and support programs targeting two-parent OWF assistance groups. This additional allocation is to be used to assist counties and the state in meeting the federally mandated two-parent participation rate requirement of 90%. For several years, WCDJFS has maintained a very low number of two-parent OWF assistance groups. As deemed necessary by WCDJFS, any allowable service that is not already covered in the PRC plan will be covered with this allocation, up to the maximum amount of the allocation, to assist them in self-sufficiency. Services can be covered through the end of state fiscal year 2008.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work-off services received under this PRC provision. In addition, prior receipt of PRC for other related items will not affect receipt of these services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these services.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14 as listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

21. ADDITIONAL HEATING ASSISTANCE 06-07 (TANF Goal 1)

With the upcoming heating season approaching and with warnings regarding the much higher prices for home heating, a system to supplement households with minor children in Washington County would be of great assistance to low income families. This program will allow families to apply for an additional maximum one-time assistance of \$500.00. The program will operate in coordination with the Emergency HEAP program to include any additional extension to the dates of the program. Community Action will ensure that all heating assistance applicants also be given information and/or application about the Federal HEAP program.

Eligible households would be those in Washington County who are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and who heat with bulk fuel (propane and oil), wood, coal, regulated or unregulated utilities, and have a minor child in the home.

This program would be operated the same months as Emergency HEAP (November 1, 2006 through March 31, 2007).

Washington-Morgan Community Action will provide WCDJFS a copy of the approved self-declared PRC application.

- A. There will be no requirement to pay back or work off these services. In addition, prior obtaining of PRC for other related items will not affect the receipt of these specific services. Lastly, future eligibility for regular PRC will not be affected due to receipt of these specific funds.
- B. Applicants ineligible for these services will be 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 listed in section titled Applicants Ineligible for PRC in this document.

Agreement :

Washington County Department of Job and Family Services agree to implement the PRC Model as written.

Michael L. Paxton, Director of WCDJFS

Date