

**Effective use of public/private  
resources collaboration**

**August 21, 2013**

## **Colorado Employment First**

Colorado SNAP E & T, (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training) known as Employment First in Colorado, operates in 28 of the 64 counties that serve 87% of the States work registrants. This State supervised program partners with a variety of public and non-profit agencies in order to provide services in the most innovative and economical way.

Work registrants are those individuals between 18 to 60 who receive Food Assistance and do not have a child under age six.

Employment First helps SNAP recipients obtain employment through community work, referrals, education, training and accountability in order to reduce dependency.

Workfare is the cornerstone of Employment First matching participant's skills with local non-profits to complete required monthly hours.

FFY 2013

Referred	75,482
Full time jobs	14,476
Part time jobs	9,886
Sanctioned	31,538

Sanctioned = Individuals chose not to participate with Employment First and lost their SNAP benefits

Employment First also provides a check and balance on individuals receiving Food Assistance to ensure proper use of SNAP funds.

**Employment First partners with a variety of community agencies facilitating workfare opportunities, job seeking skills classes, referrals to community agencies to overcome barriers and increased employment that translates into increased tax dollars when individuals go to work.**