



Joint Webinar with Workforce Development Council
July 13, 2015

The Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) has provided the Colorado Works (TANF) program the opportunity to strengthen partnerships with the public workforce system to improve employment outcomes for low-income individuals statewide. The current structure in Colorado, with 64 county administered Departments of Human Services and 10 workforce regions, requires a thoughtful and detailed planning process to ensure this opportunity is maximized to the benefit of low-income Coloradans. Planning must be done both regionally as well as statewide.

In order to work effectively with each county/region, Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC) and Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) will be facilitating discussions within the geographic area of the 10 workforce regions and 9 sub-regions in the coming months, in order to ensure local plans are consistent with WIOA, and support the best possible outcomes for low-income families in the community.

CDHS proposes a phased integration process, using as a template the scope of mandatory partnership outlined in WIOA, which builds upon existing foundations and strategies, and maps out locally-defined objectives:

- Phase 1: 10 large counties and 2-3 small/ medium counties (CDLE- managed Rural Consortium)
- Phase 2: Medium-sized counties (CDLE-managed Rural Consortium)
- Phase 3: Small counties (CDLE-managed Rural Consortium)

Timeline:

- Mid July to mid-August- Intensive planning sessions with the Colorado Workforce Development Council (CWDC) and the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE)
- Mid to late August: Develop strategies for integration, including scope of mandatory partnerships and performance measures
- Late August- Create communication plan for all counties
- Early September- Evaluate current structures of those counties in Phase 1 for existing minimum compliance
- Late September thru end of December- Begin local level discussions for those counties included in Phase 1
- January 2016- Begin working with counties identified in Phase 2

