

From: McLendon, Lennox <lmclendon@naepdc.org>

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News, Views, and Clues

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SNAP E&T Strategies

As you heard from David Stout (SC) and others at the NTI, the SNAP E&T program offers great opportunities to expand basic skills and career pathway services with SNAP funding.

Report with Successful Strategies:

[Workforce Data Quality Campaign](#), a project of National Skills Coalition, just released a new paper, "[Stepping Up: State Developments in SNAP Employment and Training Data](#)," which explains state best practices for collecting, reporting, and linking SNAP E&T data to other information that can help identify successful pathways into sustainable employment. As states capitalize on increased attention and resources for SNAP E&T, the report provides ideas to enhance their program data and accountability.

The report features strategies from Florida, Washington State, Minnesota and Texas.

Background:

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides food to more than 47 million of the poorest Americans each year, while the associated employment and training (E&T) program helps those receiving benefits to move into stable jobs.

SNAP Employment and Training (E&T) was created in 1985 to help families exit SNAP by becoming self-sufficient through work. Each state is required to administer a SNAP E&T program for participants who are not working or are underemployed. States receive federal funding for providing job search assistance, basic education, vocational training, job retention services, and other workforce opportunities. States must provide supportive services such as child care and transportation assistance if SNAP recipients are required to participate in an E&T program. States have flexibility to design their SNAP E&T programs—for example, what services to offer, which geographic regions to serve, whether the program is voluntary or mandatory, and how the state sanctions participants for noncompliance. Rachel Gragg and David Kaz, *Replicating Success: Recommendations and Best Practices from Washington State's SNAP E&T Program (BFET)*, June 2014, p. 6

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Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

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Dr. Lennox L. McLendon, Executive Director

lmclendon@naepdc.org

www.naepdc.org

202.624.5250

202.624.1497 FAX