

**WORK FIRST NJ**

**Quarterly Progress Update**

**June 2013**

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF**

**HUMAN SERVICES**

**Division of Family Development**

**Jeanette Page-Hawkins**

**Director**



***Jennifer Velez***

***Commissioner***

**Work First New Jersey (WFNJ)**

**Quarterly Progress Update**

**Quarter Ending June 2013**



***1. Work First NJ Caseload***

•**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

The number of families receiving WFNJ/TANF totaled approximately 37,400 as of June 2013, a slight decline from the March 2013 caseload.

**WFNJ TANF Caseload**



**•Client Deferrals and Exemptions**

Of the total TANF caseload of 37,400, about 19,700 cases (53 percent) were those withadults in the household who must comply with WFNJ/TANF work requirements.



**•General Assistance (GA)**

As of June 2013, there were approximately 39,000 General Assistance (GA) persons aided in New Jersey.

**WFNJ GA Persons Aided**



**•Teenaged Welfare Recipients**

Of the WFNJ/TANF population of 37,400 in June 2013, about 1,032 (2.8%) were teenaged recipients, aged 18 and 19, who were heads of their households.

***2. Employment & Work Preparation***

**•Participation of WFNJ TANF Clients in Employment-Directed Activities**

For the month of June 2013, over 15,800 TANF clients were engaged in work activities. About 4,200 (26 percent) of these individuals had begun working but were still receiving a partial cash assistance payment, due to income disregards.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Employed** | **4,173** |
| **Job Search** | **1,775** |
| **Community Work Experience**  **Program (CWEP)** | **5,631** |
| **Other Training**  -Occupational Training  -Education  -On the Job Training (OJT) | **4,278** |
| **Total** | **15,857** |



**•Cases that met the Federal Participation Requirement**

Of the people scheduled to participate in the work-directed activities, 4,958 participated at levels sufficient to satisfy federal requirements.

**•Cases Closed Due to Employment**

During the third quarter, an average of about 1,000 WFNJ TANF and GA clients left welfare for employment each month.



*(988) (1,040) (972)*

*(1,059) (1,144) (929)*

**•Major Reasons for TANF Case Closings**

**April to June 2013**



**About 24 percent of all TANF cases closed during the quarter**

**were closed due to employment.**

**•Earnings of Former TANF Recipients**

During the third quarter of 2013, WFNJ TANF recipients who were working were earning an average of $9.73 per hour.

**Average Hourly Wages of Former TANF Recipients**



**•Statewide Job Openings**

According to the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, there were 104,201 job openings statewide during the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. The majority of positions available were in the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services category, followed by the Retail Trade and Administration and Support, Waste Management and Remediation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LWD statewide job openings** | |
| **Occupation** | **Openings** |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services | 21,490 |
| Retail Trade | 20,840 |
| Admin. & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation | 16,527 |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 9,808 |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 8,673 |
| Manufacturing | 4,106 |
| Finance & Insurance | 3,907 |
| Information | 3,318 |
| Accommodation and Food Services Finance & Insurance | 3,035 |
| Other Services | 3,019 |
| Construction | 2,316 |
| Wholesale Trade | 1,995 |
| Arts, Entertainment & Recreation | 1,197 |
| Educational Services | 990 |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting | 727 |
| Real Estate & Rental & Leasing | 627 |
| Public Administration | 623 |
| Utilities | 452 |
| Management of Companies & Enterprises | 440 |
| Mining | 111 |
| **Total** | **104,201** |

***3. Child Care***

As of June 2013, over 5,500 WFNJ TANF clients received child care benefits. Post-TANF child care benefits were issued to nearly 4,000 families who had become employed and were no longer receiving cash assistance.

**WFNJ TANF Cases Receiving  
 Child Care Benefits, June 2013**



***4. WFNJ Program Expenditures***

The attached Appendix provides a summary of WFNJ program expenditures for the quarter.

**NOTE: ALL CHARTS AND GRAPHS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED BY**

**THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING CHARTS AND GRAPHS  
 OR PROGRAM EXPENDITURES, PLEASE CONTACT  
 JEANETTE PAGE-HAWKINS, DIRECTOR, AT 609-588-2401.**



APPENDIX