

BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

December 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018

Department: Community Based Services

Block Grant: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

This report is submitted in compliance with KRS 45.357. This report on achievements may be compared to the Block Grant application currently on file with LRC.

Block Grant Manager: 

Eric T. Clark
Commissioner

8-2-18

Date

1. FINANCES	Federal Funds	General Funds	Trust/Local Match	Total
Annual Budget	\$180,689,420.00	\$71,913,100.00	\$0.00	\$252,602,420.00
Actual Expenditures	\$52,601,963.34	\$25,723,914.62	\$18,059.59	\$78,343,937.55
Encumbrances	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Available Balance	\$128,087,456.66	\$46,189,185.38	\$(18,059.59)	\$174,258,582.45

2. RESULTS BUDGETED/ACHIEVED

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS
1. Provide cash assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of families.	1. From December 2017 through May 2018, a monthly average of 16,783 families (6,106 adults and 30,514 children) received cash assistance through the Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP).
2. Provide supportive services, within budget limitations, to enable K-TAP recipients to participate in job preparation and work with the goal of family self-sufficiency.	2. In December 2017, 17,134 families received K-TAP. The number of families receiving assistance decreased to 16,443 in May 2018. In December 2017, there were 37,409 individuals including 6,388 adults and 31,021 children. In May 2018, the number of individuals, adults, and children receiving K-TAP decreased to 35,936: 5,840 adults and 30,096 children. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 1,441 adults working in April 2018 (unsubsidized employment), compared to 1,560 in December. The monthly average of adults working during this time period was 1,463. The data is for the time period of December 2017 to April 2018. There were issues with reports for the month of May 2018 and was unavailable at the time this report was due. The issues and report are being corrected and will be made available once resolved. • There were 1,754 recipients in adult education, high school, college, and skills training for April 2018 and a monthly average of 1,734. The data is for the time period of December 2017 to April 2018. There were issues with reports for the month of May 2018 and was unavailable at the time this report was due. The issues and

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	<p>report are being corrected and will be made available once resolved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During April 2018, 4,247 K-TAP recipients, 74% of the recipients who are required to participate, were participating in some Kentucky Works activity. These activities are not all counted toward the federal participation rate. The data is for the time period of December 2017 to April 2018. There were issues with reports for the month of May 2018 and the report unavailable at the time this report was due. The issues and report are being corrected and will be made available once resolved.
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2. RESULTS BUDGETED/ACHIEVED (continued)

OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 178 K-TAP cases discontinued in May 2018 due to employment compared to 0 cases in December 2017. • Other supportive services were provided for a monthly average of 82 K-TAP recipients during this time period. • Relocation Assistance was provided to 1 family per month (monthly average) during this time period. • Family Alternatives Diversion was provided to 17 families (monthly average) from December 2017 through May 2018. • For the period December 2017 through May 2018, an average monthly number of 2,591 children (including children in Kinship Care) were provided child care services with TANF funds.
3. Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.	3. During the months of December 2017 through May 2018 the worker portal eligibility system did not capture when a K-TAP family requested to discontinue their assistance due to marriage.

3. AUTHORIZED CHANGES (from the Block Grant Plan in Finances and/or Objectives)

The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 reauthorized the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The DRA required the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to issue regulations to do the following: define the activities that are countable toward the work participation rate requirements; define which cases that contain a parent are included in the work participation rate calculation; and describe how states must document, verify, and monitor hours of participation. On June 29, 2006, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) published an interim final rule implementing key provisions of the DRA effective October 1, 2006. The final rule addressing provisions of the DRA was published February 5, 2008. Changes from the interim rule were effective October 1, 2008.

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program was scheduled for reauthorization in 2010. The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act (H.R. 3630), extended the block grant through September 30, 2012, the end of fiscal year 2012. A continuing resolution was passed to extend TANF through the end of March 2013. The Continuing Appropriations Act for FY 2013 extended TANF through the end of September 2013, while the Continuing Appropriations Act for FY 2014 (P.L. 113-46) provided funds through January 15, 2014. The Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2014 extended TANF through September 30, 2014. The Continuing Appropriations Act for 2015 approved TANF through September 30, 2015. The Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2016 has extended TANF through February 8, 2018. The Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2017 extended TANF through FY 2018, which ends September 30, 2018.

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4. EVALUATION OF RESULTS

The monthly average of K-TAP families for the months of December 2017 through May 2018 was obtained by averaging the total number of cases (families) during this time period. The number of K-TAP adults and children was computed in the same manner. Not all cases contain an adult member. During this period, there was a monthly average of 11,012 child only K-TAP cases that did not contain an adult member in the case. The number of K-TAP families and recipients who received assistance was obtained from the PA-264 reports for December 2017 through May 2018. Information regarding participation in Kentucky Works and receiving supportive services was obtained from reports taken from the Online Tracking Information System (OTIS). The number and type of cases discontinued were based on reason entries on Worker Portal systems, including cases discontinued for exceeding the income limits due to earnings, receipt of or increase in earnings, removal of time limited deductions, and marriage. The numbers for child care were obtained by averaging the total number of children who received assistance funded with TANF during this time period. The number of families who received Relocation Assistance during this time period was obtained from the OTIS and Worker Portal systems and averaged for this time period.

5. ALTERNATIVES FOR IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY

Special services were provided during this period of time to assist families in obtaining self-sufficiency or for the family to remain intact.

Effective April 2003, Employment Retention services were replaced with the Work Incentive Program (WIN). WIN is a reimbursement payment given to individuals who are employed and transitioning off of K-TAP. The payment is provided to reimburse individuals for expenses incurred as a result of their employment such as transportation, special items needed to stay employed, etc. Eligible individuals may receive reimbursement payments of \$130 per month for up to nine (9) months. WIN is available to a family if the family includes an adult with wages who has been discontinued from K-TAP on or after April 1, 2003. The family has to have an eligible child, be a resident of Kentucky, and have total gross income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Receipt of WIN reimbursements is limited to once in a lifetime. WIN is not available to a family if employment is obtained after the K-TAP case is discontinued. The WIN program was developed as a result of findings from a Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation study indicating income supports are the most effective means to help individuals stay off welfare. During the period December 2017 through May 2018, an average of 383 individuals received WIN.

The Kinship Care Program offers an option to assist relatives in caring for a child who must be placed out of the child's home due to substantiated abuse or neglect. As of May 2018, there were 4,764 children in the Kinship Care Program, a 5% decrease from December 2017. Effective April 1, 2013, no new Kinship Care applications have been accepted.

Special steps are taken to ensure K-TAP recipients know about the 60 month lifetime limitation so they can take advantage of the Kentucky Works program. Up to 20% of the K-TAP caseload may be exempted from time limitations due to hardship. As of May 2018, there were 80 families with extended benefits due to meeting a hardship extension reason. During the time period of December 2017 through May 2018, there was a monthly average of 35 families discontinued due to reaching the 60 month time limit. CHFS staff visits K-TAP families that are nearing discontinuance due to time limitations to ensure children are safe and to identify any emergency needs. Safety Net services are available to a post-K-TAP family who has lost assistance due to time limitations or due to non-cooperation with the Kentucky Works Program. Safety Net services are funded through TANF and are available to families with income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Benefits are temporary and may be authorized up to a total of \$635 for four (4) months during a twelve month period. These benefits are used to meet basic needs such as shelter, food, clothing or utilities. During this time period, 9 families received Safety Net services.