



## **WORK FIRST NJ**

### **Quarterly Progress Update March 2012**

**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

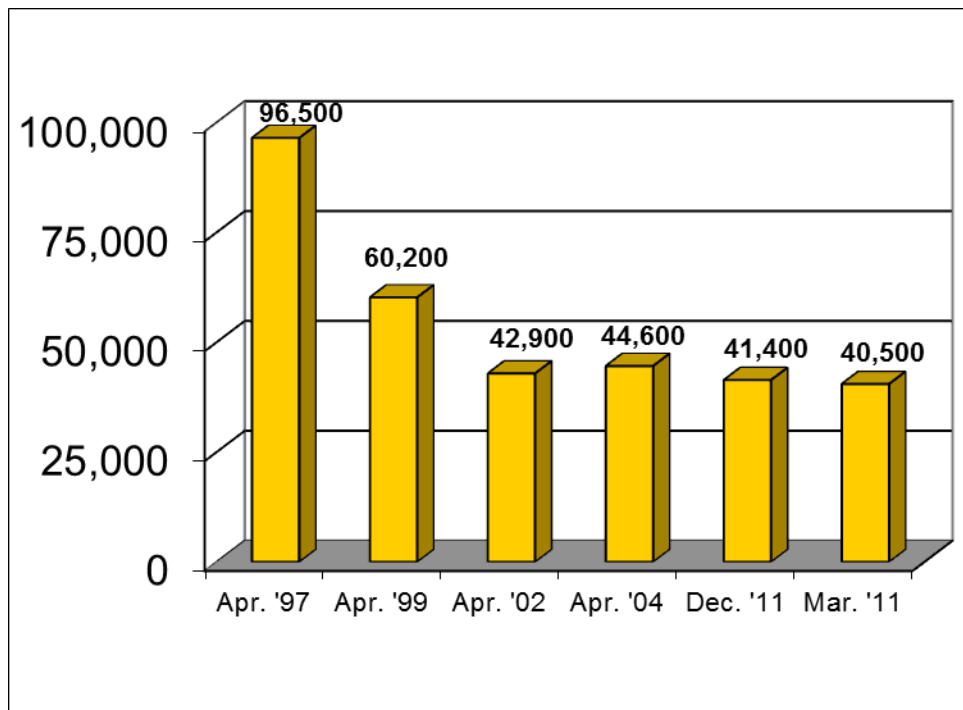
Quarter Ending March 2012

### 1. Work First NJ Caseload

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

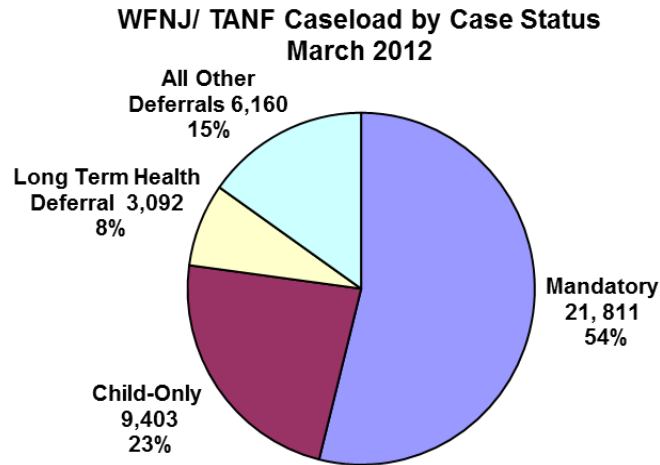
The number of families receiving WFNJ/TANF totaled approximately 40,500 as of March 2012, a slight decline from the December 2011 caseload.

WFNJ TANF Caseload



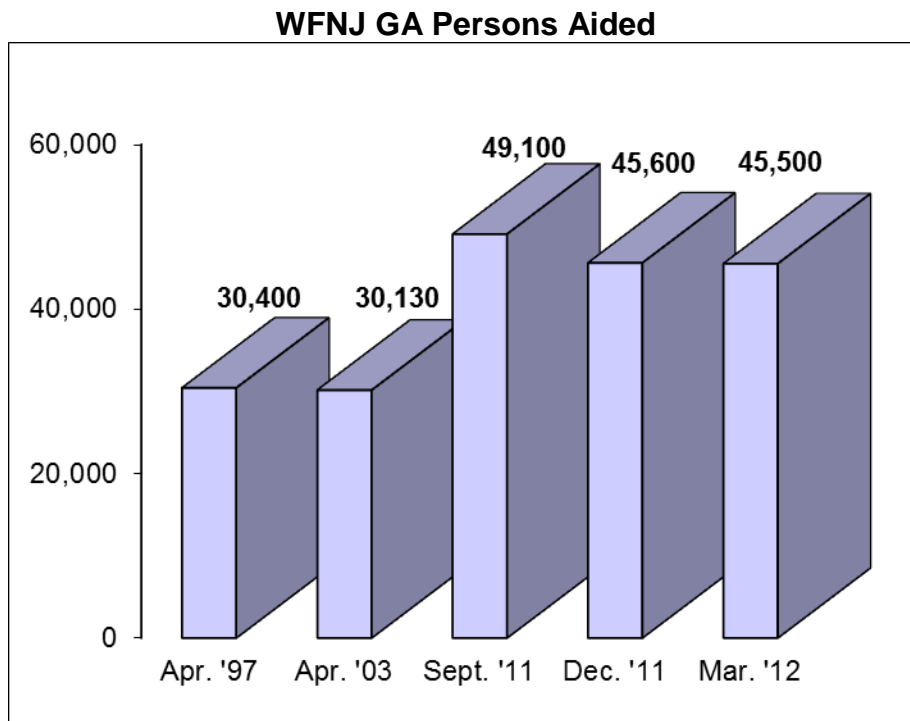
### •Client Deferrals and Exemptions

Of the total TANF caseload of 40,500, about 22,000 cases (54 percent) were those with adults in the household who must comply with WFNJ/TANF work requirements.



### •General Assistance (GA)

As of March 2012, there were approximately 45,500 General Assistance (GA) persons aided in New Jersey.



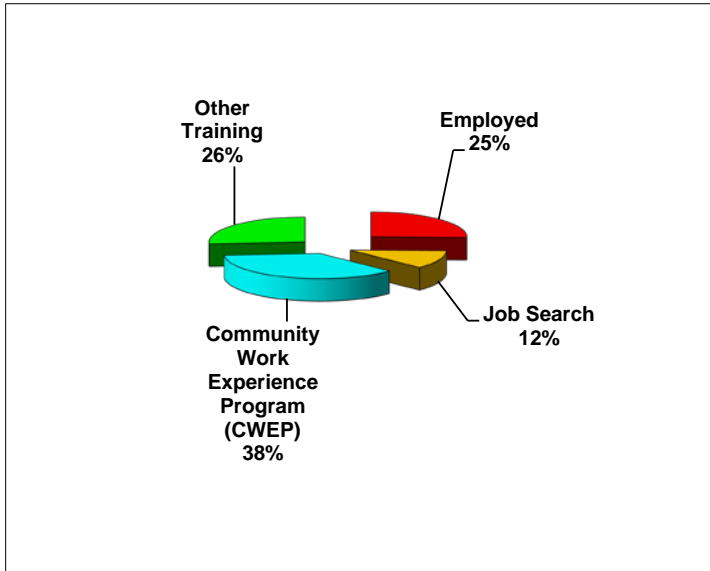
### •Teenaged Welfare Recipients

Of the WFNJ/TANF population of 40,500 in March 2012, about 1,400 (3.4%) 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 March 2012, over 16,000 TANF clients were engaged in work activities. About 4,100 (25 percent) of these individuals had begun working but were still receiving a partial cash assistance payment, due to income disregards.



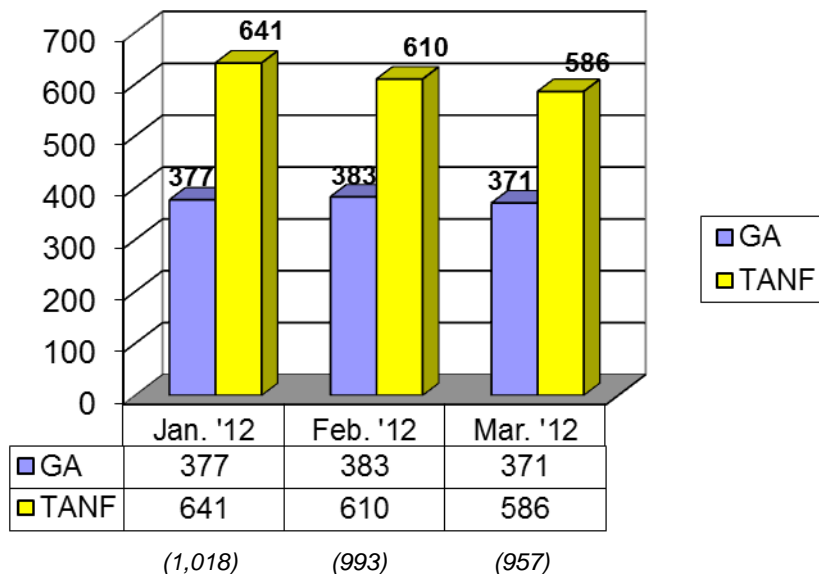
<b>Employed</b>	<b>4,081</b>
<b>Job Search</b>	<b>1,891</b>
<b>Community Work Experience Program (CWEP)</b>	<b>5,867</b>
<b>Other Training</b> -Occupational Training -Education -On the Job Training (OJT)	<b>4,202</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,041</b>

### •Cases that met the Federal Participation Requirement

Of the people scheduled to participate in the work-directed activities, 5,548 participated at levels sufficient to satisfy federal requirements.

### •Cases Closed Due to Employment

During the quarter, an average of about 990 WFNJ TANF and GA clients left welfare for employment each month.



## •Major Reasons for TANF Case Closings

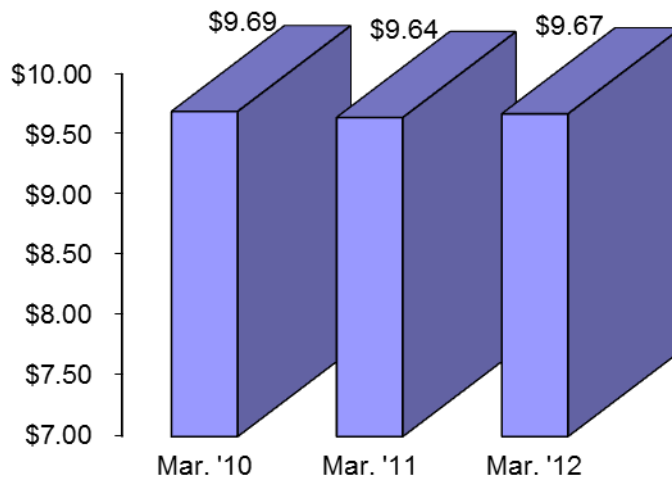
January to March 2012				
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Due to Employment	641	610	586	1,837
No Eligible Children	219	193	190	602
No Redetermination	93	123	107	323
Moved Out of State	82	107	95	284
All Other Closed	1,698	1,645	1,512	4,855
(Unemployment Ins. Benefits)	118	112	98	328
(Recipient Withdrawal)	146	181	151	478
(Recipient Initiative)	32	32	53	117
(Moved to Another County)	67	53	59	179
(Unable to Verify Residence)	77	81	73	231
(Other Closed Cases)	1,258	1,186	1,078	3,522
<b>Total Closed Cases</b>	<b>2,733</b>	<b>2,678</b>	<b>2,490</b>	<b>7,901</b>

**About 23 percent of all TANF cases closed during the quarter were closed due to employment.**

## •Earnings of Former TANF Recipients

During the first quarter of 2012, WFNJ TANF recipients who were working were earning an average of \$9.67 per hour.

**Average Hourly Wages of Former TANF Recipients**



**•Statewide Job Openings**

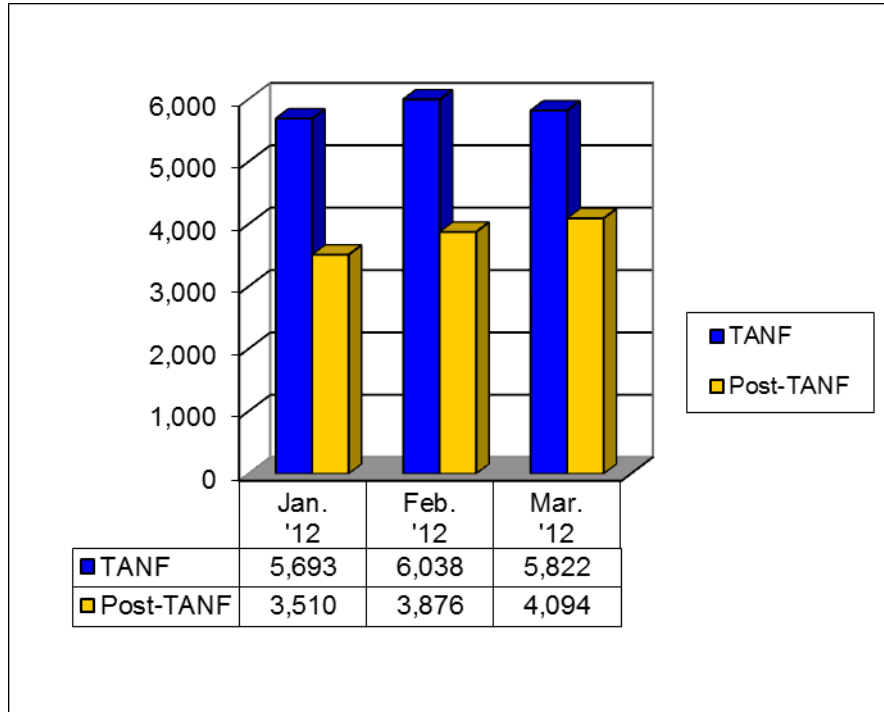
According to the NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development, there were 60,997 job openings statewide during the period of April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012. The majority of positions available were in the Administration and Support, Waste Management and Remediation category, followed by the Accommodation and Food Services and Retail Trade fields.

<b>LWD statewide job openings</b>	
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Openings</b>
Admin. & Support, Waste Mgt. & Remediation	13,144
Accommodation & Food Services	7,864
Retail Trade	6,519
Health Care & Social Assistance	5,547
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5,512
Manufacturing	5,142
Transportation & Warehousing	3,483
Educational Services	1,903
Information	1,844
Construction	1,829
Other Services	1,554
Wholesale Trade	1,397
Public Administration	1,324
Finance & Insurance	1,244
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,090
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting	730
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	568
Utilities	247
Mining	20
Management of Companies & Enterprises	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,997</b>

### 3. Child Care

As of March 2012, about 5,800 WFNJ TANF clients received child care benefits. Post-TANF child care benefits were issued to nearly 4,100 families who had become employed and were no longer receiving cash assistance.

#### WFNJ TANF Cases Receiving Child Care Benefits, March 2012



### 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.**

**THE DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
WORK FIRST NEW JERSEY (WFNJ) EXPENDITURES  
Quarter Ending March 31, 2012**

	Actual Mar 31, 2011	Actual June 30, 2011	Actual Sept 30, 2011	Actual Dec 31, 2011	Estimate March, 2012	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2011 7/10 - 6/11	TOTAL COSTS CY 2011 1/11 - 12/11	TOTAL COSTS SFY 2012 7/11 - 3/12	TOTAL COSTS CY 2012 1/12 - 3/12
<b>(A) CASE MANAGEMENT</b>									
TANF	\$7,400,564	\$8,887,442	\$8,949,937	\$10,428,153	\$8,916,524	\$35,232,110	\$35,666,096	\$28,294,614	\$8,916,524
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$3,565,535	\$3,980,387	\$3,205,035	\$4,572,540	\$3,830,874	\$15,360,814	\$15,323,497	\$11,608,449	\$3,830,874
GA	\$2,130,154	\$2,368,052	\$2,464,291	\$1,735,141	\$2,174,409	\$9,470,645	\$8,697,637	\$6,373,841	\$2,174,409
<b>(B) SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICE</b>									
Special Initiative	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,147	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>(C) CHILD CARE</b>	\$23,378,009	\$23,903,907	\$24,390,357	\$24,321,899	\$23,998,543	\$96,340,472	\$95,994,171	\$72,710,799	\$23,998,543
<b>(D) TRAINING RELATED EXPENSE, PARTICIPANT ALLOWANCE AND TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT</b>									
TANF	\$3,000,467	\$2,639,302	\$2,573,531	\$2,533,421	\$2,686,680	\$10,699,646	\$10,746,720	\$7,793,632	\$2,686,680
Food Stamps	\$847,172	\$1,358,762	\$1,063,518	\$1,077,002	\$1,086,614	\$4,053,286	\$4,346,455	\$3,227,134	\$1,086,614
GA	\$195,153	\$171,276	\$157,434	\$141,013	\$166,219	\$1,069,051	\$664,876	\$464,666	\$166,219
<b>(E) DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT - EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING</b>									
TANF	\$11,018,693	\$15,470,817	\$10,592,429	\$6,998,498	\$11,020,109	\$48,521,504	\$44,080,437	\$28,611,036	\$11,020,109
Food Stamps/Able Bodied Adults W/O Dependents	\$3,624,882	\$4,737,780	\$3,326,842	\$3,434,772	\$3,781,069	\$15,234,552	\$15,124,275	\$10,542,682	\$3,781,069
GA	\$2,134,315	\$2,717,657	\$2,648,975	\$1,663,619	\$2,291,142	\$9,029,283	\$9,164,567	\$6,603,736	\$2,291,142
<b>(F) OMEGA SYSTEM</b>	\$485,749	\$486,235	\$486,721	\$487,206	\$486,478	\$1,931,181	\$1,945,911	\$1,460,405	\$486,478
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$57,780,693</b>	<b>\$66,721,616</b>	<b>\$59,859,069</b>	<b>\$57,393,265</b>	<b>\$60,438,661</b>	<b>\$246,977,692</b>	<b>\$241,754,643</b>	<b>\$177,690,995</b>	<b>\$60,438,661</b>

**FOOTNOTES:**

*ACTUAL expenditures are subject to subsequent adjustment and reconciliation to be reflected on future reports.*

*ACTUAL expenditures for OMEGA SYSTEM have been revised to reflect actual expenditures.*