

Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Ad Hoc Task Force

Annual Report: January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013

In 2013, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Ad Hoc Task Force monitored Administration and Congressional activity on the TANF block grant program. The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 reauthorized TANF program through September 2012, the program has since been reauthorized through short-term extensions, postponing serious consideration of changes to the block grant program.

The U.S. House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources held several hearings on TANF in 2013. The Ad Hoc Task Force submitted comments for the February 2013 Hearing on Waiving Work Requirements in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program. In March, the House passed related legislation, "Preserving Work Requirements for Welfare Programs Act of 2013" (HR 890). The bill was a reaction to an Information Memorandum released by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in 2012 informing state TANF administrations that the Secretary would consider waiving TANF work participation requirements for states interested in exploring more effective approaches to engaging low-income parents in the workforce. The Senate did not consider the legislation.

In July, 2013, the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources also held three hearings in July 2013 examining the effectiveness of TANF and other programs to assist low-income households. The Ad Hoc TANF Task Force did not submit comments for the hearings.

The TANF Ad Hoc Task Force did not formally convene in 2013. The Ad Hoc TANF Task Force members do not believe a formal Ad Hoc TANF Task Force is required for 2014 but will be ready to respond as needed if any issues arise.