Expansion of Texas' SNAP E&T Third-Party Partnership (TPP) Program

Presenters:

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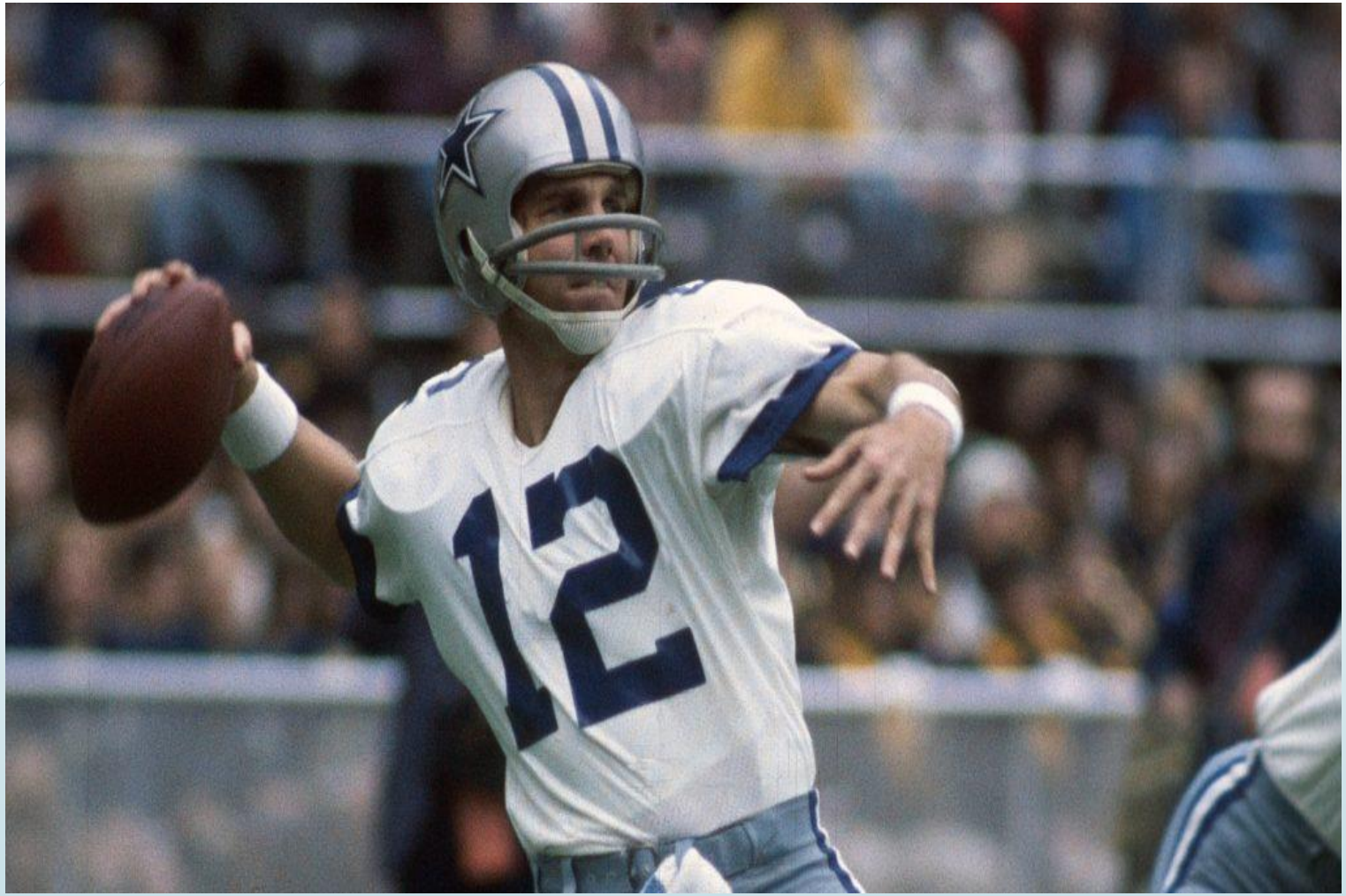
Welcome and Overview

Joel Mullins

What's Ahead

- Information on Texas' Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Employment and Training (E&T) Third-Party Partnership (TPP) Expansion
- Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation.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Goal of SNAP E&T

To assist SNAP recipients by improving their ability to:

- obtain regular employment;
- increase their earnings; and
- reduce their dependency on public assistance.

The TPP program promotes this goal.

TPP Program Overview

- Partners use non-federal funds to provide SNAP E&T services & get reimbursed for up to 50% of expenditures.
- Project will expand TPPs in Texas.
- First-year demonstration includes 4 Boards.
- Each year, more Boards will be rolled into the expansion, with the goal of all 28 Boards incorporating TPPs into their SNAP E&T operations by FFY30.

SNAP E&T Background

John Briscoe

National Initiative

"…[C]hanges made by Congress in the 2018 Farm Bill were meant to strengthen E&T programs and improve SNAP participants' ability to gain and retain employment. ... [A State agency that administers SNAP E&T] should be designing a SNAP E&T program that meets the needs of participants and is responsive to the communities in which it operates. Designing an E&T program is not a one-time effort. [States] need to continually review and assess evolving community factors—including current labor market needs, provider availability, and service quality—and your target population's interests and needs."

Growing and Strengthening SNAP E&T Programs | Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)

Texas' SNAP E&T Program

- HHSC/TWC analyzed the program & identified a need to expand opportunities for SNAP recipients.
- Each year, Texas serves around 1.4% of SNAP recipients in E&T.
- There's a lot of unrealized potential for program growth.
- One way to grow SNAP E&T is to tap into the Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) 50-50 funding match-based program (TPP.)

What Oregon Did

- Oregon transitioned their SNAP E&T Program to a TPP model in federal fiscal year 2014.
- Went from $250,000 the first year to $36 million SNAP E&T investment this year
- 30 contracts & more than 100 service sites across the state
- Portland's Workforce Board alone has 12 TPPs & 30 service sites.
- Consortium of 17 Community Colleges

Limits of Funding

Preliminary SNAP E&T funding allocations for upcoming year:

- Texas 50/50 – $9,194,500
  - Current match is all state revenue based.
- Oregon 50/50 - $36,551,572
  - Approximately 90% of match is from non-state revenue sources.

Funding

Lisa Medina

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

SNAP E&T Funding
100% Funds

100% funds

- Appropriated annually
- Distributed to States based on a formula
- Additional allocations subject to approval/availability:
  - ABAWD pledge funds
  - Additional 100% funds

SNAP E&T Funding
50-50 Funds

50% or “50-50” funds

- Costs exceeding those covered by 100% funds

- Support services provided to program participants such as:
  - Transportation costs

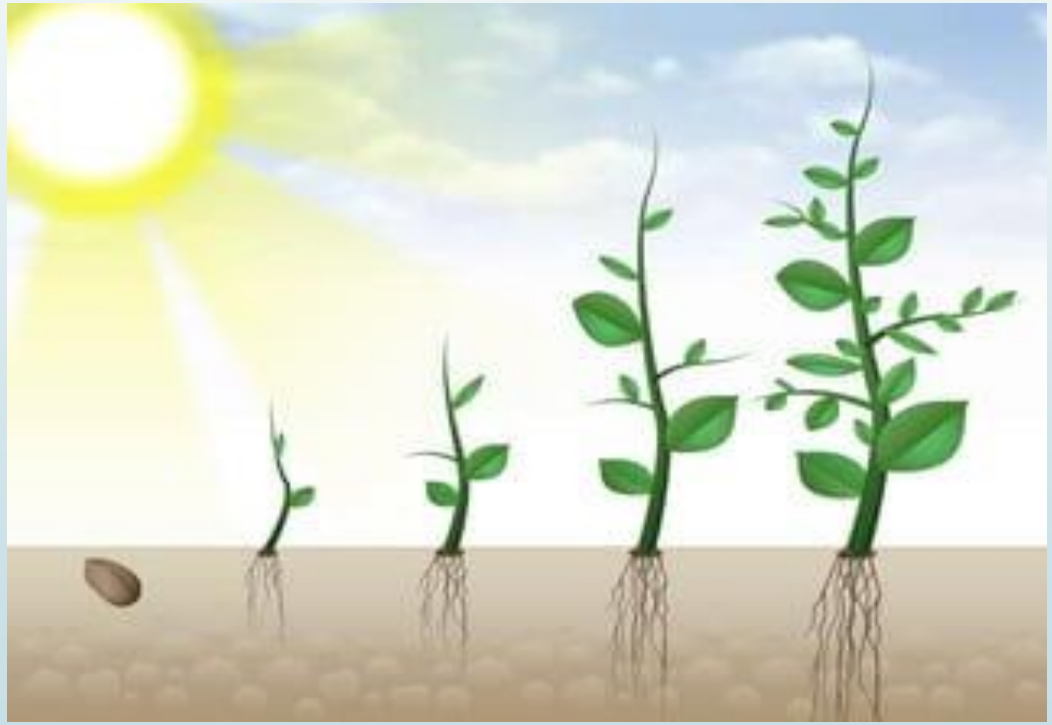
- *This list of support services is not all inclusive. Provision of support services is based on local Board policy.*

Use of SNAP E&T Funds

Expense	Some Examples	100%	50-50
Admin. & direct program expenses (other than support services)	• Oversight of contractor • Contractor operations • Job skills development • Trainings for participants	YES	YES
Support Services	• Transportation costs	NO	YES

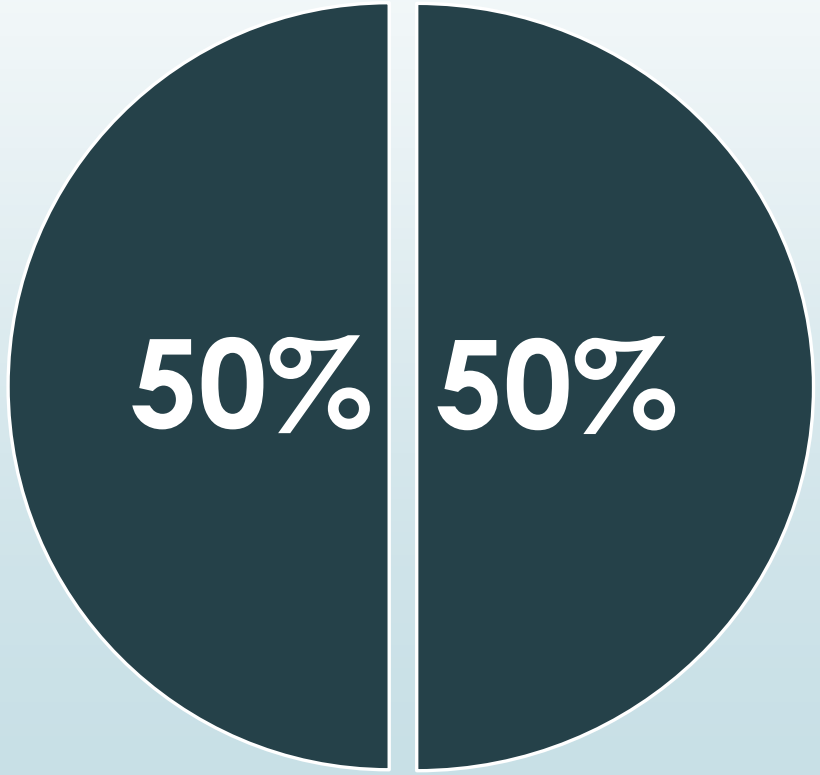
Why tap into 50-50 funds?

- 100% funds are limited.
- No additional allocations for Texas this year
- 50-50 funds are not limited.
- The use of 50-50 funds through TPP expansion is a good way to grow a State's SNAP E&T program.

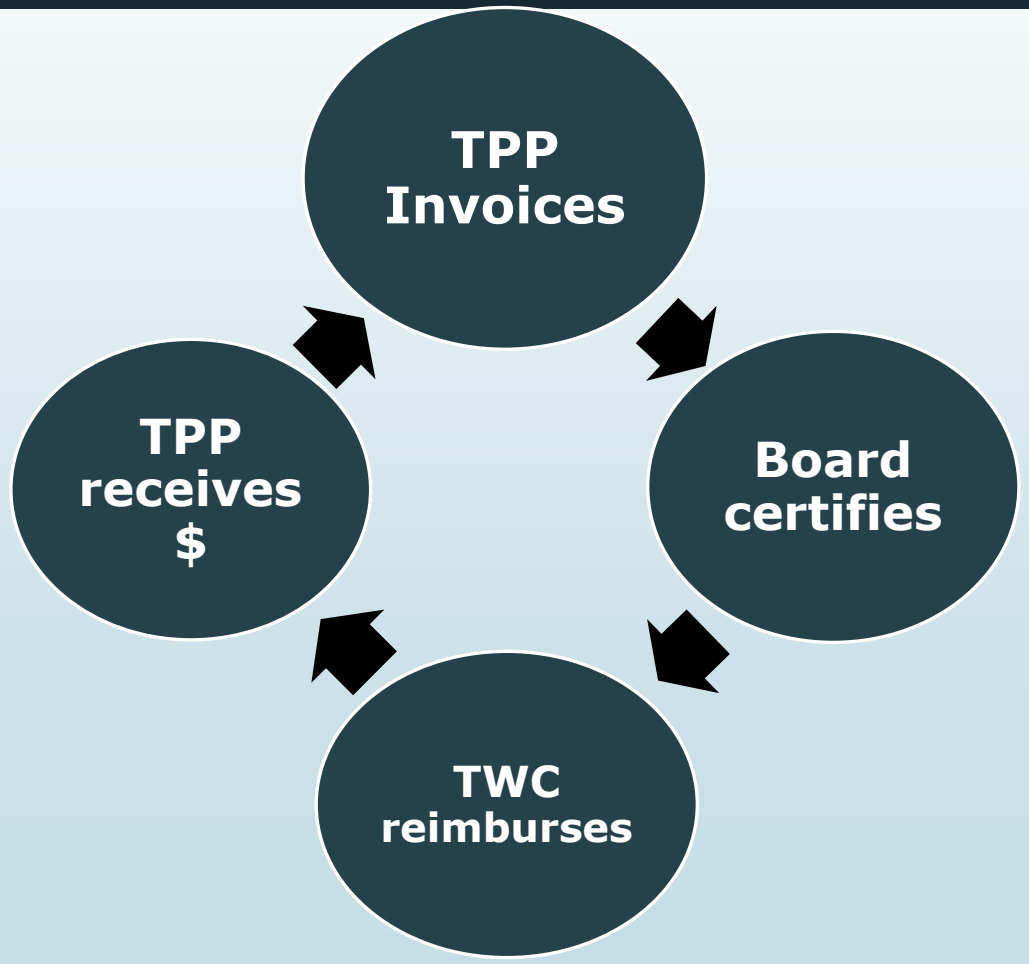


Third-Party Reimbursement (TPR)

- States leverage 50-50 funds through TPPs.
- Boards establish partnerships for provision of services.
- Partners use non-federal funds to provide services & are reimbursed for up to 50% of their expended funds.



Reimbursement Process



- TPP submits invoice to Board/contractor.
- Board submits a Certification of Expenditures Form to TWC.
- TWC reimburses Board.
- Board reimburses TPP.

Note: We've not yet determined what percentage of the 50% reimbursement Boards may use to cover local administrative and operational costs.

Opportunities

Steph Smith

Workforce Boards
Employers
Partners
Participants

Opportunities

- Collaboration among state, local government, workforce boards, training centers, community organization, employers and people
- Leverage existing relationships/partnerships in your region
- Improve grant opportunities

More Opportunities

- Expand training and services
  - Tailored industry/employer trainings
  - Tailored demographic training programs (Veterans, re-entry, foster youth, etc.)
- Enrich current workforce training programs
- Reach state and workforce board outcomes and goals

But wait, there's more…

- Enhances outreach to target populations and customer bases
- Reimbursements allow organizations (TPPs) to grow their own budgets and programs
- Helps SNAP recipients overcome barriers and achieve self-sufficiency

Resources for You

Joel Mullins

Discover More

- SNAP E&T Program Toolkit
- SNAP E&T Operations Handbook
- TWC's SNAP Third Party Reimbursement Guide
- SNAP E&T National Partnership Grants
- SNAP to Skills
- FNS SNAP Employment and Training

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Q&A