## LASER TLC TANF Modernization Learning Session

Date: May 3, 2022
Time: 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm EDT

### Purpose

As the LASER TLC sites begin to rethink their approach to service delivery and their support for TANF participants and their families, modernizing the safety net is at the forefront of that discussion. Participation in this learning session will allow TLC sites the opportunity to hear about the foundational principles behind TANF modernization, highlighting human services system alignment, and specifically outlining how to operationalize the practice changes incorporated within TANF modernization—harnessing technology and digital solutions; case management strategies; accessing data; creating success indicators; and fully engaging or reengaging clients/constituents in the pandemic-era economy. Additionally, the session also builds upon the OPRE Study highlighted last month. This learning session will provide states, counties, and tribes with an opportunity to learn from a peer about "how" they approached TANF modernization, their challenges, successes, and the lessons learned as they reimagined their approach to human service delivery.

### Objectives

By the end of this session, LASER TLC teams will:

1. Understand the core principles fundamental to advancing TANF modernization.
2. Understand how to align services to increase family stabilization and focus on whole family approaches.
3. Learn from a peer about lessons learned in their approach to reimaging TANF given the pandemic, as well as how they are aligning human services to better serve their TANF families.

### Agenda

2:00 – 2:05      **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

2:05 – 2:10      **Outline of Today's Session-Overview of TANF Modernization**

- Reimagining TANF programs in a post-pandemic economy
- Overview of the Umbrella of TANF Modernization—Practice Examples from the Field

2:10 – 2:50      **Principles of TANF Modernization & the Roadmap to Human Services Alignment**

A panel consisting of the Employment and Economic Well-Being Policy Associate from APHSA, Mary Nelson, will highlight the six core principles of TANF Modernization and outline the roadmap for human services system alignment. She will be joined by Megan Nicholls, Associate Commissioner of Family and Economic Assistance, and Erin Quinn, Associate Commissioner of Employment and Training from the Department of Transitional Assistance, Massachusetts, who will discuss their varied approaches of how they used the pandemic to reimagine their TANF

program, as well as how Massachusetts has aligned its human services to address the needs of young parents.

**2:50 – 3:30**     **Facilitated Cross-Site Team Discussions**

The LASER TLC sites will break into four breakout rooms facilitated by site coaches. Team members will have an opportunity to connect with coaches and peers to debrief what they have learned and discuss promising practices for modernization opportunities within their TANF programs and how to connect them with their LASER innovation. Facilitators will close the session from the breakout rooms.