

Colorado's TANF Leavers Study: Success Stories

Prepared by: Megan Kauffmann,
Division Evaluator, Employment &
Benefits Division

DATE: February and March, 2021



COLORADO
Office of Economic Security
Division of Employment & Benefits

About the TANF Leavers Survey



Purpose/Intent



Survey Type



Timeframe

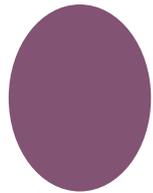


Number of
Respondents

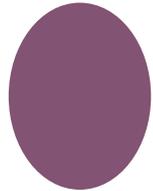


Survey Focus
Areas

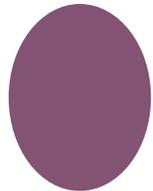
Employment Success and Supports



48.2% of one and two parent family respondents said that they left Colorado Works because they got a job or their wages increased.



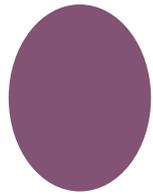
28.1% of one and two parent family respondents said that their income was higher after leaving Colorado Works than it was when they joined.



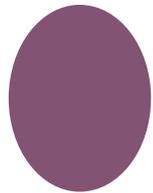
89.7% of respondents (all family types) agreed or strongly agreed that the services they received while in Colorado Works helped their children.



Success Stories: The Qualitative Data



How did you get this job (referring to their main employment)?



In what ways did Colorado Works help meet your child(ren)'s needs?



How Did You Get A Job?

1. Networking

- a. Friend
- b. Family Connection
- c. Referral
- d. Networking in day-to-day moments (child care drop offs, landlord, etc.)

2. Job Posting Source

- a. Indeed
- b. Other internet sites (Facebook, Snagajob, Craigslist, ZipRecruiter)

A friend “told them I was a good worker, so they hired me.”

A relative “put a good word in for me at her job and they gave me a shot.”

“My son’s daycare offered me this job after hearing of my experience in child care.”

“I was offered an interview through Indeed.com from the company.”

How Did We Help Meet Children's Needs?

1. Financial Assistance for:

- a. Food
- b. Clothing
- c. Housing/Rent
- d. Diapers
- e. Transportation
- f. Bills
- g. School supplies

2. Referral To or Connection With Other Benefit Program:

- a. CCCAP (child care)
- b. Other child care
- c. SNAP (food stamps)
- d. Medicaid
- e. LEAP (energy assistance)
- f. WIC

“It helped me make sure (my son) has all he needs and all our bills got paid.”

“The financial assistance helped me to buy my kids' hygiene items and clothes to wear to school.”

“CCCAP paid for my daughters to go to daycare so I could go back to school.”

“They referred me to WIC and CCCAP which aided in my child's development and hunger.”

In Summary...

Takeaways:

- Networking & Indeed are common ways clients reported getting jobs
- Families value caseworkers connecting them to other benefits
- Supports provided through Colorado Works help meet children's needs

Further Inquiry:

- How can we promote further success by increasing engagement with the program?

