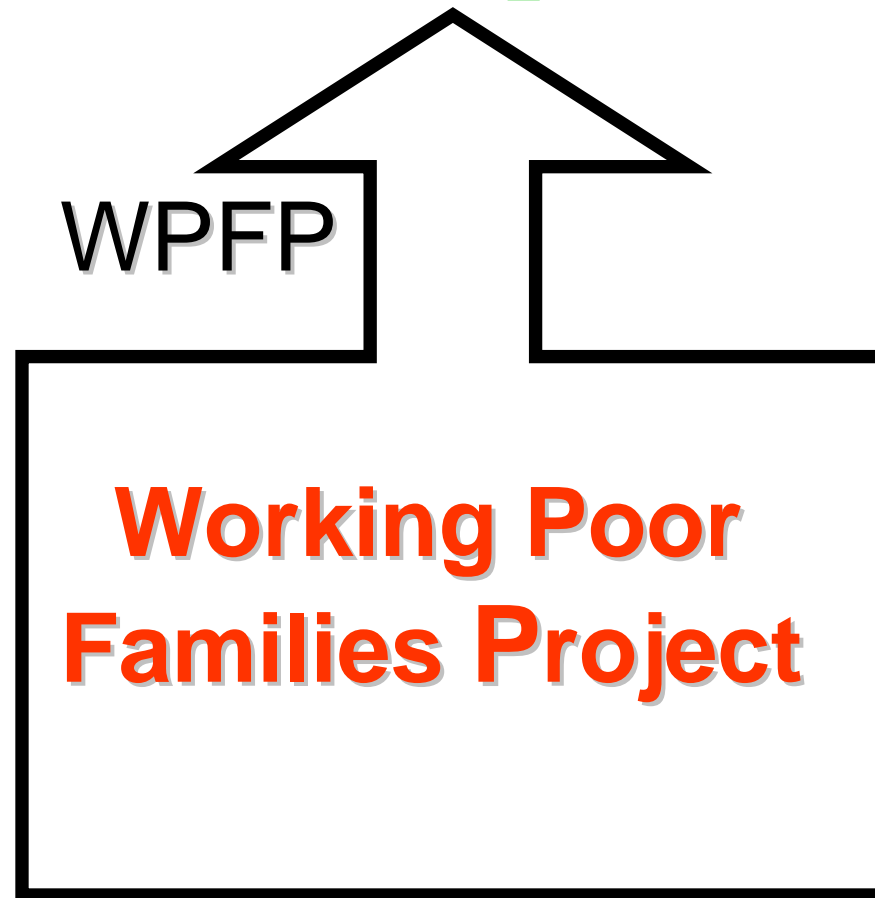
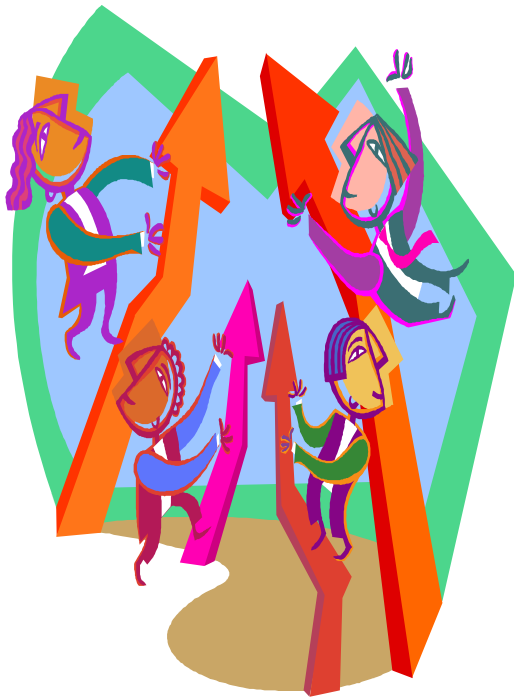


Strengthening State Adult Education and Skills Development Policies



Women in Government

Working Poor Families Project



- ◆ Supported by AECF, Ford, Joyce and Mott Foundations (2001)
- ◆ Strengthen state policies that help working families to succeed in the labor market
- ◆ Emphasis on Adult Education and Skills Development Policies

Approach

- Support to state non-profit organizations (26) to assess and strengthen state policies
- Indicators to evaluate and rank state conditions, policies and practices
- Continuing support to promote state policy improvements



Key Data on Working Poor Families

- 1 out of 4 Working Families Low Income
- 42 Million Adults and Children
- One-Fifth All Jobs Paying Below Poverty
- Income Inequality Rising
- Minority Working Families 2x More Likely Low-Income
- Since 2002 Working Poor Families Increased

Characteristics of Low Income Working Families



- ◆ Work Hard
- ◆ Married Couples
- ◆ American Born Parents
- ◆ Working Age Parents
- ◆ White Families

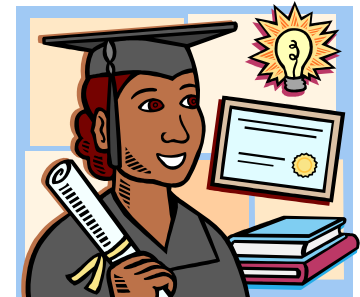
Factors Affecting Working Families

- Low Education and Skills
- Insufficient Number of Good Paying Jobs
- Low Pay and Poor, if any, Benefits
- Insufficient Policies and Programs
- Uneven Commitment Among the States



Adult State Education and Skill Development Policy Areas

- Postsecondary (Community Colleges)
- Adult Basic Education and Literacy
- Workforce Investment Act
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
- Apprenticeship
- Targeted Training (Firms)



Community College Policy Issues

- Need-Based Aid for Adult Worker Access
- Support Services to Promote Completions
- Development Education Enhancements to Achieve Transitions
- Expanded Data Systems to Measure Results
- Funding Incentives to Reward Success



Other Policy Issues

- ABE and Literacy: Transitions
- WIA: Transitions and Credentials
- TANF: Priority to Education/Skills and Economic Advancement
- Apprenticeship: Access
- Training: Who Benefits



State Challenges

- Recognize Working Adults Importance to State Economic Recovery and Competitiveness
- Align State Resources and Programs To Optimize Use of Current Resources
- Foster Policy and Institutional Change For Better Results

