

**AN ASSESSMENT OF SERVICES TO WELFARE RECIPIENTS IN ONE-STOP CAREER CENTERS**

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Security

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**Project Summary:** With the passage of federal welfare reform legislation in 1996 and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in 1997 there was an increase in the labor market activity of welfare recipients moving from welfare to work. Among the different funding sources available to serve this population are the following: WIA, Wagner Peyser, Food Stamp Employment and Training, WtW grants, and state TANF block grant funds. The role of the Employment Service and the use of Wagner-Peyser funds in particular were undergoing major change in many localities. There were also many different institutional mechanisms for serving welfare recipients, including separate operational programs for TANF recipients versus basic integration into full-service One-Stop Career Centers.

This project examined the types of welfare customers being served and the various services that they were receiving at One-Stop Career Centers. While there had been some research on the coordination of welfare and workforce development programs, the Department needed specific information about the extent to which welfare recipients and former welfare recipients (including those who were employed and subsequently dislocated from their jobs) were being served through the One-Stop system and whether and to what degree these services were different or were changing in response to new policy initiatives. Study tasks included a brief review and synthesis of existing literature on coordination; discussions with representatives of relevant organizations and selected federal officials in the national and regional ETA offices; development of summary tabulations using ETA management information and administrative data; site visits to five One-Stop Career Centers; and development of a final report.

**Report:**

D. Nightingale, B. Barnow, F. Kramer, J. Trutko, and M. Egner, *The Role of One-Stop Career Centers in Serving Welfare Recipients in 2002*, The Urban Institute, prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor, 2003.

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