Washington State’s Basic Food Employment & Training Program

April 2014
SNAP Employment & Training in Washington State – Key Facts

- SNAP (Basic Food):
  - Caseload: 587,086 cases (1,088,437 people)
  - Adults not on TANF/non disabled adults: 451,675

- BFET:
  - Annual enrollment: 29,000
  - Annual budget: $29 million

- 50/50 reimbursement model

- About 60% of BFET clients become employed within one year
  - Average hourly wage: $10.38 - $11.08
Seattle Jobs Initiative & FareStart

- **Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI) -- among first CBOs involved in BFET**
  - Serves over 200 BFET participants (over 2,000 since 2006)
  - 61% – 69% become employed within one year

- **FareStart -- culinary job training and placement program for homeless, low-income**
  - Operates revenue-generating restaurant to help finance BFET
  - Many participants are homeless ex-offenders
  - Serves about 65 BFET participants (1,000 served since 2006)
  - 70 - 80% become employed within one year
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BFET website:  http://www.basicfoodet.org/