Possible Approaches to State Demonstrations: Workforce Development Strategies

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A Researcher’s Perspective

• What does research evidence suggest about:
  – Job readiness
  – Work experience
  – Vocational training
Assessments Needed to Triage

- SNAP population is diverse
- Service approach depends on participant’s needs
- In-depth assessments can determine service path
Job Readiness Training: Building Nebraska Families

- Home visitors worked weekly with TANF recipients on life skills
- Study found large earnings impacts
- Considerations:
  - Works in urban areas?
  - Transfer from home to classroom?
Work Experience: Evidence Discouraging

• Variety of approaches (paid/unpaid; private/public)
• Subsidized jobs programs found to be effective in short-run only
• DHHS- and DOL-funded evaluations of subsidized jobs currently underway
Vocational Training: Can be Effective

• Clear evidence of increased earnings for disadvantaged workers

• Sector-based training is promising
  – Employers matter
  – Training developed in partnerships with employers found effective
For More Information

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