

December 2017 Update

Expansion Updates

- **Third-party providers:** The state now has eight third-party providers serving E&T participants across the state. The providers are Catholic Charities, Goodwill Easter Seals, HIRED, Lakes and Pines, Merrick, Pine Tech, Project for Pride in Living and Northwest Indian CDC. Additional third-party providers will be chosen through the upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP).
- **Next round of rolling RFP:** The next round of RFPs to select the next cohort of third-party providers is expected to be published spring 2018.
- **Workforce One Changes:** Staff from Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) and representatives from DHS contracted third-party providers recently met with Workforce One (WF1) staff for a Joint Application Development to address SNAP E&T system limitations. As a result, WF1 is being updated to allow third-party providers to create participant records in the system. Newly implemented SNAP E&T WF1 updates include participant activities and exit reasons. DHS staff are working to make updates to the eDocs SNAP E&T Employment Plan; when the changes are finalized, the new version will be added in WF1.
- **Provider quarterly report:** Beginning FFY 2018, third-party providers were asked to complete quarterly reports. The reports provide information on the number of E&T participants served as well as accomplishments, challenges faced and best practices. Based on information from providers, 590 participants were served by the eight DHS contracted organizations the first quarter of FFY 2018 (Oct-Dec 2017). In the report, providers indicated that best practices include integrating E&T in additional program areas and having clear communication with county staff among many others.
- **Leadership changes:** Tikki Brown was recently promoted to Economic Opportunity and Nutrition Assistance Director. Tikki now oversees SNAP Food and SNAP E&T as well as the Office of Economic Opportunity.