



**Update on TANF**

**Presentation to the LHHS  
Brent Earnest, Deputy Secretary, HSD  
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# What is TANF?

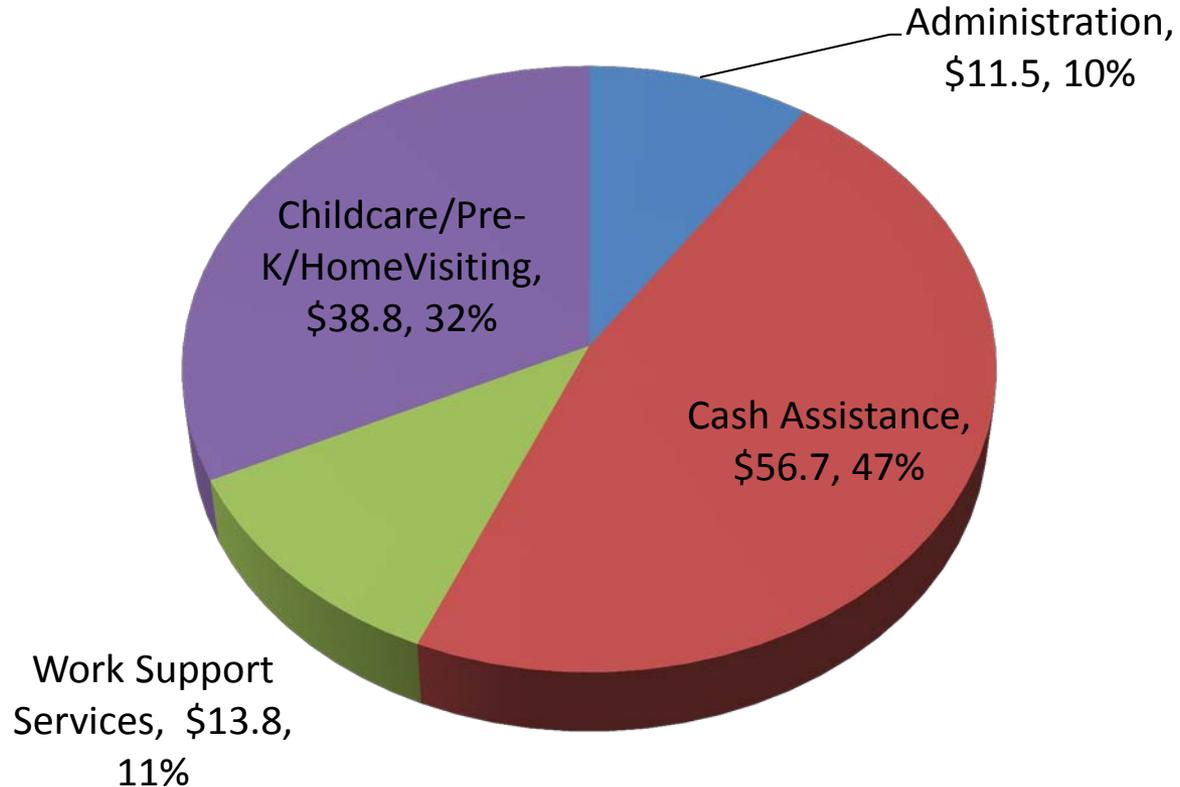
- **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)** is a block grant given to states to design and operate programs to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency.
- TANF was enacted through the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. TANF replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program.
- In New Mexico, the TANF program is called New Mexico Works. This name is derived from the New Mexico Works Act that was enacted in February 1998.

# TANF Background

- The four purposes of the TANF program are to:
  - Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes
  - Reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage
  - Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies
  - Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families
- Currently, the TANF block grant funds many activities
  - Direct Cash Assistance to Families
    - State & Tribal programs
  - Case Management
  - Work Supports
    - Transportation Assistance
    - Child Care Subsidies
  - Pre-Kindergarten Services
  - Home Visiting
  - Supportive Housing Project for Homeless Families

# FY15 TANF Appropriation

FY15 TANF Appropriation = \$120.8 million



# TANF Caseload and Expenditures

