

# South Carolina DSS Employment Services and SC Voucher Program



## ***What is SNAP Employment and Training (SNAP E&T)?***

The **SNAP Employment & Training (E&T) Program** provides training and employment opportunities to SNAP households to increase their income in order to reduce their dependency on SNAP benefits and lead to self-sufficiency. Program participants are offered a number of service options, including work readiness training, educational or basic literacy activities, vocational training, workfare, and work experience components. **SNAP E&T** partners with numerous community based organizations, non-profit organizations, state agencies, and technical colleges in order to maximize the services available for participants.

### ***SNAP E&T Data:***

- In 2021, **SNAP E&T** provided training for over 2,400 SNAP participants.
- In 2021, **SNAP E&T** participants engaged in 2,710 employment enhancing activities.
- In January 2022, **SNAP E&T** assisted 463 participants with either enrolling in a training program or gaining employment.
- In January 2022, **SNAP E&T** assisted 25 participants with obtaining employment with an average wage of \$14.37 per hour.

## ***What is Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)?***

South Carolina's **TANF Program** is designed to move families toward financial independence within 24 months by providing assessments, counseling, job training, employment opportunities and financial support. Families enrolled in the program are offered employment training and placement, child care and transportation subsidies while in employment or training activities, and a monthly stipend.

TANF Family Success Coaches (case managers) work with TANF recipients to customize a plan to remediate barriers to employment as quickly as possible. Upon remediation of barriers, locally established Workforce Consultants are assigned to assist with job preparation, employment readiness, and career exploration. Workforce Consultants work with hundreds of employers throughout South Carolina to connect job seekers with meaningful employment.

### ***TANF Data:***

- In 2021, DSS assisted more than 1,600 TANF recipients with obtaining employment.
- In January 2022, DSS assisted 25 TANF work program participants with obtaining employment with an average wage of \$13.50 per hour.

## ***What is SC Voucher?***

The **SC Voucher Program** (formerly known as "ABC Vouchers") provides assistance to eligible families to help address the high costs of child care. Payments are made directly to child care providers. Maximum weekly payments vary by categories of care (centers, family child care homes, etc.), urban or rural settings, ages of children served, and quality level of the child care provider.

DSS now offers child care assistance (SC Vouchers) for working parents. In order to qualify, parent income must be at or below 300% FPL, and be working at least 15 hours a week or in school or training program. This category of child care assistance is provided for up to 52 weeks. Child care providers must be enrolled in ABC Quality to receive vouchers for eligible children.

During calendar year 2021, **27,781 children** were approved for SC child care vouchers and placed in a slot.