



Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services Feb. 9, 2016

Department of Health and Human Services Work First Program Substance Use Initiative



Work First Program Overview

- The Work First program is based on the premise that parents have a responsibility to support themselves and their children.
- The program provides parents with cash assistance and other services to help them become employed and move toward selfsufficiency.
- Welfare Reform resulted in reducing the number of households receiving cash assistance.
 - FFY 1995 125,503 households received ongoing assistance
 - SFY14-15 an average of 17,728 households received ongoing assistance
- An estimated 62% of Work First cases are "Child Only."

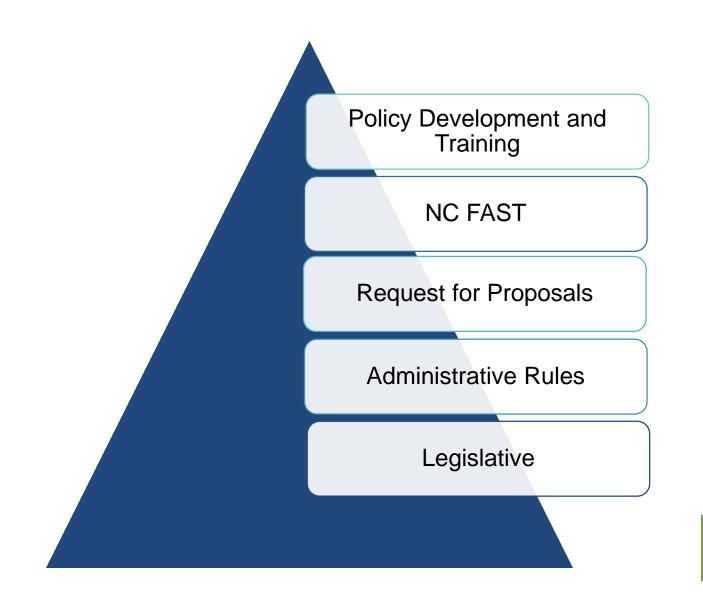


Statutory Requirement

- Session Law 2013-417, Part II, Section 4(a) revised NC GS§ 108A-29.1 to require a drug test to screen each applicant for or recipient of Work First Program assistance whom the Department reasonably suspects is engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances.
- In July of 2014, Session Law 2014-100 (Senate Bill 144) allocated funds for the implementation of the Substance Use Initiative.



Key Areas of Effort



Implementation Activities

LEGISLATIVE	ADMINISTRATIVE RULES	REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS	NC FAST	POLICY DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING
 NCGA Presentations NCGA Sub- Committee Meetings Expansion Request for Funding Meetings with NCGA Leadership DHHS Bi-Weekly Meetings Quarterly Legislative Reports Consultation with ACF Consultation with US HHS OCR 	 Temporary Rule Permanent Rules Social Services Commission Review Consultation with DHHS, RRC and NC Attorney General Office Legal Staff Public Hearings and Comment Periods Consultation with DMH/DD/SAS OSBM Review Rules Review Commission Technical changes Spanish Translation 	 Development and Review DHHS P&C Review Fiscal Note RFP Posted RFP Evaluations and Vendor Recommendation Notice of Award Contract Execution Coordination with Vendor on training needs and implementation readiness activities 	 Scope of Work Project Design Business Requirements Enhancement Requests Allocation of resources Weekly Touch Point Calls Design Review and Signoff Report Development User Testing Site Meetings 	 Recipient Notices Administrative Notices Monthly updates with DSS Directors MOA with DMH/DD/SAS Develop Policy and Training Webinar Forms Development Public Affairs Review Forms Translations Virtual Training on Substance Use Initiative Virtual Training on E Fortes System access for County Security Officers Dec. 2014-Aug. 2015

Deployment of the Work First Substance Use Initiative

- On Aug. 3, 2015, County Social Services Agencies operationalized Work First Program Substance Use "Drug Testing."
- Centralized "Command Center" staffed by NC DSS/Work First, NC FAST and NC DHHS OST.
- Staff dedicated for trouble shooting with contract vendor to address system functionality.



Work First Program Data

- Substance Use Initiative data is available for the period beginning Aug. 3 through Dec. 31, 2015.
- Limited data is available to provide a comparison of impact of the initiative on caseloads over time.
- Comparison data is confined to the months of August–December of the cited years.
- The following slides provide information on:
 - Substance Use Referrals and Test Results
 - Costs Related to Substance Use Testing
 - Pre- and Post-Substance Use Initiative Caseload Data
 - Caseload Data Over Time



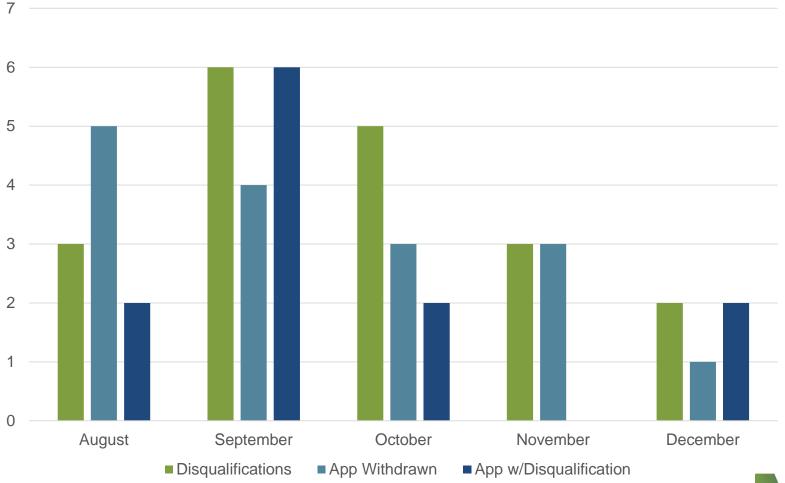
Work First Program Substance Use Initiative

Substance Use Referrals and Test Results Aug. 3, 2015 – Dec. 31, 2015

Report Month	Missed Appointments	Number of Tests Performed	Confirmed Positive Result
August	7	5	2
September	13	18	3
October	15	24	5
November	20	19	3
December	15	23	8
Total	70	89	21



Case Disposition for Individuals with Confirmed Positive



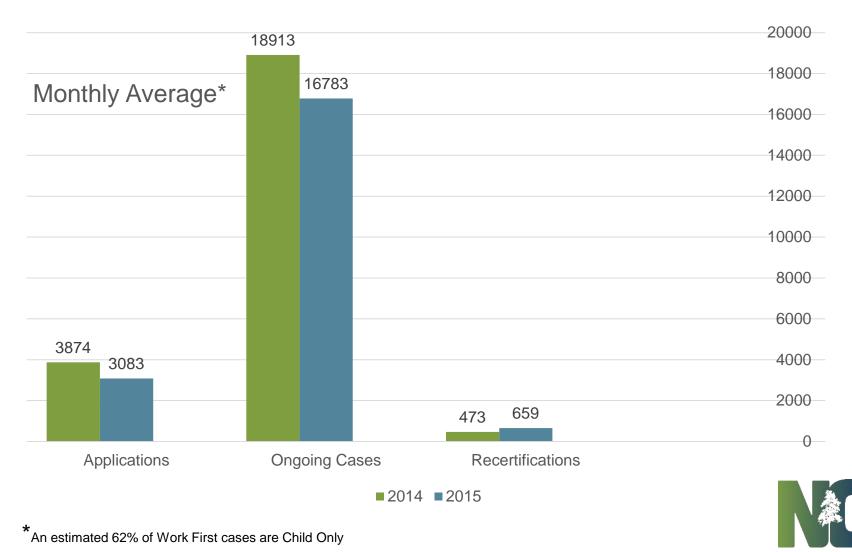


Costs Related to Substance Use Testing Aug. 3, 2015 – Dec. 31, 2015

- As of Dec. 31, 2015, 89 tests have been administered at the contract cost of \$55.00 per test for a total of \$4,895.00.
- Fortes Laboratories of Wilsonville, Oregon, is the service provider for substance use testing.
- Fortes has contracts with local testing facilities to ensure all 100 counties have access to collection sites.
- The substance use test is a urine toxicology that screens for:
 - Cannabinoids (marijuana, weed);
 - Cocaine (cocaine; crack);
 - Methamphetamines (meth, crystal, crank)/Amphetamines (speed, uppers);
 - Opiates (heroin, opium); and
 - Phencyclidine (angel dust, PCP)

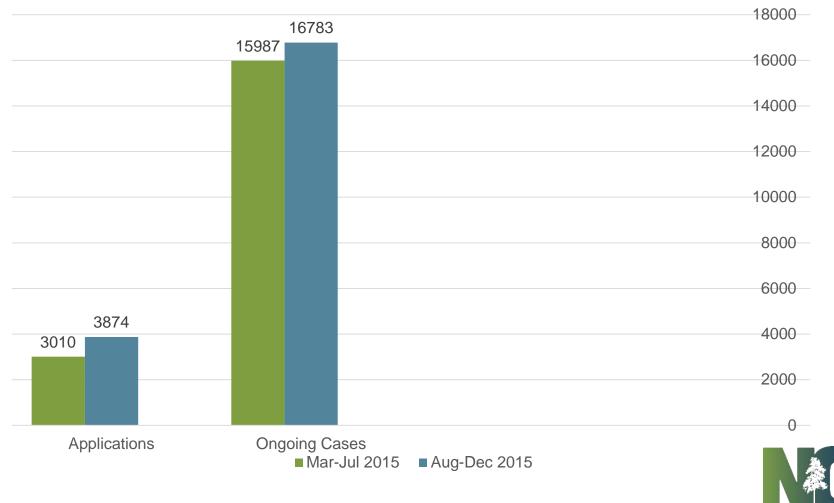


Monthly Average Applications and Eligibility Re-determinations



JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Pre- and Post-Substance Abuse Initiative



Note: An estimated 62% of cases are Child Only