

Abstract

Applicant Name: Total Action for Progress (TAP)

Project Title: RESTORE Southwest Virginia

Description of the area to be served: Highly impacted communities in rural Southwest Virginia including the Greater Roanoke Valley (Roanoke City, Roanoke County, Salem, Craig County, Botetourt County); the New River Valley (Montgomery County, Pulaski County, Giles County, Floyd County, Radford City) and Alleghany Highlands (Alleghany County, Covington).

Number of participants to be served: 120

Funding level requested: \$500,000

Cost per participant: \$4,167

Brief Summary of the proposed project:

Southwest Virginia is at the center of the nation's opioid crisis with overdose and neonatal abstinence syndrome rates far in excess of state and national averages.

RESTORE Southwest Virginia will assist families impacted by the opioid crisis in three regions (Greater Roanoke, New River Valley and Alleghany Highlands) by providing career services and job training to women in two groups.

Group 1 – Women with an opioid use disorder (OUD) who are in recovery and have progressed far enough in their recovery to where training and/or improved employment is a benefit to sustaining their recovery.

Group 2 – Women who find themselves with greater financial responsibility for sustaining a household impacted by the opioid crisis. This may include grandmothers raising grandkids or female heads of household where the father's ability to contribute to household income is impacted by the opioid crisis.

RESTORE Southwest Virginia will enhance and extend the successful SwiftStart partnership funded by the DOL Strengthening Working Families Initiative. SwiftStart has provided job training and child care to over 250 participants over the last three years. 90% of SwiftStart participants are women; 80% are single mothers. We estimate over 75% of our current participants are impacted by the opioid crisis and would be eligible for RESTORE. Many SwiftStart applicants that would be eligible for RESTORE are not ready for one of the training tracks offered by SwiftStart and the RESTORE program will allow us to serve the needs of these women who are currently falling through the cracks of services available in the community. Please take a moment to watch this testimonial video from a SWFI SwiftStart participant impacted by the opioid crisis <https://vimeo.com/347108564>. **←!! IMPORTANT!!**

In alignment with TAP's focus on two-generation whole-family programming, which creates broader and more sustained impact, TAP will prioritize family households with children.

The longstanding network of proven relationships and partnerships brought together for RESTORE includes community action agencies, workforce boards, behavioral health agencies, colleges and universities, child care providers and a range of referral and supportive service partners with a track record of effective collaboration. These partnerships will also allow us to leverage significant training and supportive service resources to enhance the success of participants.

TAP has a proven track record of meeting and exceeding performance goals on DOL contracts and is in a position to begin implementation immediately with a much abbreviated planning and startup phase.