Social Services: Supporting Employment, Workforce Development, and Inclusion

Presentation for CPSC
March 24, 2015
Overview of Ontario Works Caseload
Social Services

• Legislated to deliver “Ontario Works” program
• All clients deemed eligible receive supports
• Employment supports and assistance
  – Delivered through service partnership with community agencies
• Financial assistance
  – Basic needs and shelter
  – Discretionary/essential needs benefits
Average Monthly Caseload Size

Number of Households

Year


12,434 12,644 11,965 11,031 8,588 7,959 7,765 7,515 9,945 10,636 10,889 10,911 10,976 11,155 11,155

6,000 7,000 8,000 9,000 10,000 11,000 12,000 13,000
Highlights of Ontario Works Caseload

• 25% have at least post secondary education
• 30% have a high school diploma
• 63% are single
• Over 12% of the people on the caseload are employed
In July, 52% of the households receiving Ontario Works were headed by women and 48% were headed by men. As a population, women on the caseload are younger than men.
In July 2014 over half of households reported obtaining grade 12 education or higher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reported Education Level</th>
<th>Percent of Caseload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unknown or less than grade 9</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 9 to 11</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post secondary education</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
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**Family Type, January to June 2014**

- Couple: 63%
- Single: 10%
- Sole Support Parent: 26%
- Child in Temp Care: 2%
Caseload Size by Selected Population

- Assistance 12 months plus
- Assistance less than 12 months
- With Less than Grade 12
- 46 to 65 year olds
- 36 to 45 year olds
- 22 to 35 year olds
- 18 to 21 year olds
- Immigrant on Longer than 11 Months
- Immigrant
- Single Male
- Sole Support

Source: Profile of London’s Ontario Works Participants, 2014
Ontario Works Caseload and Unemployment Rate

![Graph showing Ontario Works Caseload and Unemployment Rate from 2004 to 2013. The caseload remains relatively stable with some fluctuations, while the unemployment rate shows a peak in 2009. The caseload is represented in blue, and the unemployment rate is represented in green.](image)

- Caseload
- Unemployment rate


0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 12,000

0 2 4 6 8 10 12
Employment Outcomes

Number of People Gaining Employment, January to October, Cumulative Total

Number of People

Percent of Caseload with Employment Income, January to June, Average Monthly

Percent of Caseload

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exits due to Employment

Percent of All Exits

Source: Profile of London’s Ontario Works Participants, 2014
Supporting Employment, Workforce Development, and Inclusion
Priority Populations

- Older or experienced workers
- Single individuals
- Limited work experience
- Long term OW, motivated to work but unsuccessful
- Lower education or training
- People with disabilities
- Challenges such as homelessness, addictions, mental health
- Criminal records
- New to Ontario Works
- Higher education or training
- Youth
- Immigrants
Key Aspects of Framework

• Individualized Services and Supports
  o Delivered by Ontario Works
  o Employment review, service planning, referrals
  o Financial supports

• Other Funded Employment Supports
  o MTCU
  o Service Canada
Key Aspects of Framework cont’d

• Purchase Of Service (POS) Supports
  o To meet more intensive/specialized needs of individuals on caseload
  o RFP process for the delivery of:
    a) Essential Employment Services
    b) Skills Training Directly Linked to Employment
    c) Self Employment Development
    d) Specialized Individual Support

➢ a) & b) include opportunity to propose & participate in pilot projects
Key Aspects of Framework cont’d

• Pilot Initiatives
  o Targeted employment service
  o Flexible to meet emerging employer hiring needs
  o Support employment & economic development outcomes
  o Maximum $100,000 for each approved project
Strategies & Supports to Connect People to the Workforce

• Specific Skill Training Programs include:
  o Light Industrial
  o Construction Technologies
  o Property Maintenance
  o Administrative and Clerical
  o Environmental Service Worker Certificate
  o Expert Customer Service
  o Hands On Hospitality Certificate
  o Food Services
  o Manufacturing – Woodworking
  o Manufacturing – Recycling
  o Sales/Marketing
Strategies & Supports to Connect People to the Workforce

• Supporting internationally trained individuals get credentials through recognition process

• Employment Placement Innovations Demonstration project
  o innovative approaches
  o employer focused
  o training support
  o WSIB
System Supports

- Community Employment Assistance Strategic Group addressing system issues including:
  - Transportation
  - Mental health
  - Marketing

- Co-ordinating partnership campaign with CTV
  - London + Area Works

- Co-lead London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership
  - To foster a more welcoming and inclusive community
  - Employment Sub-council addresses system supports in partnership with London-Middlesex Immigrant Employment Council and others
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