Suggested Principles to Guide Reauthorization

♦ The flexibility in TANF should be strengthened.

♦ All relevant federal agencies should embrace state and local entities as partners in efforts to integrate benefits and services across programs.

♦ Programs and policies addressing the needs of low-income families with children should be assigned to common congressional committees and executive agencies.

♦ Aggressive steps should be taken to assess how new legislation and rule-making affect other related programs designed to assist low-income families with children.

♦ Related federal programs should be aligned so that reauthorizations occur during the same period and cross-program impacts should be assessed routinely during these joint reauthorizations.

♦ Federally sponsored evaluation and monitoring efforts should encompass the combined effects of related programs on low-income families and their communities instead of focusing on the individual effects of single programs.

♦ Accountability should be ensured by measuring performance, what is accomplished by target populations of interest, rather than by measuring process, what specific programs do.

– The WELPAN Network
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