FINANCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM ◆ aspen institute

State and Nonprofit Commitments and Actions: Highlights for the 2024 Financial Resilience Summit
Detailed List of State and Nonprofit Commitments and Actions
April 2024

Is your state or organization interested in connecting with any of these groups, learning more about implementing these programs in your state, or ready to make your own commitment? If so, contact Tim Shaw, Policy Director for Aspen FSP, to learn more and share your commitment.

State Highlights

Organization	State(s)	Description	More Information
California Department of Health Care Services	California	CalAIM: DHCS in January 2022 launched California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), a multi-year effort to improve health care access and outcomes for Medi-Cal members, especially those with complex needs with hospital transition supports, programs to address the root cause of health issues, and homelessness case management.	Learn More
California Department of Health Care Services	California	Continuous Coverage Unwinding: After California implemented more than 100 programmatic flexibilities with the support of federal partners, DHCS conducted extensive public outreach and deployed a team of more than 6,000 Coverage Ambassadors to share information. Partially as a result, the disenrollment rate decreased from 19 percent to 9 percent in December 2023, and the share of dis-enrollments due to procedural reasons dropped from 92 percent to 81 percent.	
California Department of Health Care Services	California	Medi-Cal Expansions to new populations: Eliminated asset test for Medi-Cal, expanded to all income-level Californians regardless of immigration status, and expanded postpartum coverage to all individuals.	Learn More

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California Department of Social Services	California	ACF Child Care Final Rule Implementation: In a continued effort to increase child care affordability, California invested $56 million in Fiscal Year 2023-2024 to support revisions to the family fee schedule for child care and development programs that began in October 2023. This included limiting fees to one percent of families' monthly income and prohibited fee assessment for families with an adjusted monthly income below 75 percent of the state median income.	
California Department of Social Services	California	Waivers for Guaranteed Income Pilot Program: Received waivers for multiple programs, including CalFresh, Medi-Cal, and CalWORKs, which allow pilot participants to accept guaranteed income without the loss of key existing safety net resources. The pilot program will provide unconditional and recurring cash payments intended to support the basic needs of the recipients.	Learn More
California Department of Social Services	California	Extend Medicaid Waivers: In an effort to support Medi-Cal members by keeping them covered and improving quality and access, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) applied and received federal approval for fourteen different federal waivers, more than any other state.	Learn More
California Department of Social Services	California	Implement new Child Care Subsidy Methodology: California has begun efforts to utilize an alternative methodology to establish subsidized child care subsidy rates, allowing California to establish a new, single child care rate reimbursement structure that reflects the cost of care and will ensure greater access to quality child care and development services across California.	
California Department of Social Services	California	Language Access: In May of 2023, the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) adopted a new language access policy to ensure that CalHHS and its Departments and Offices provide meaningful access to information, programs, benefits, and services to people with limited English proficiency (LEP) and to ensure that language is not a barrier to accessing vital health and social services.	

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California Health & Human Services Agency	California	Medi-Cal Redeterminations: California automated income-based waivers in eligibility and enrollment systems for its Medicaid program, which increased ex parte rates from an average of 34 percent in June of 2023 to 66 percent in December of 2023. As a result of this work, dis-enrollment dropped from 19-21 percent to 9 percent. United States Digital Services provided technical assistance as part of the federal Executive Order on Transforming Federal Customer Experience and Services Delivery to Rebuild Trust in Government and through the interagency charter between OMB and HHS on the Facing Financial Shock Designated Life Experience.	[Learn More](#)
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Iowa	Business Process Redesign: Iowa HHS Business Process Redesign will improve SNAP accuracy and timeliness and improve overall eligibility determinations process by having a business model that improves efficiencies and customer outcome and satisfaction. In conjunction with the Business Process Redesign the department plans to focus on external processes between client and HHS worker interaction. Additionally, the department is completing an external user experience and satisfaction assessment to determine accessibility to staff in person, electronically, and via phone with a focus on preferred communication. These findings will be utilized to build solutions for the churn seen with cancellations, reapplications, and form improvements.	
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Iowa	Cross-Agency Data Sharing: Iowa HHS is embracing a new data-sharing strategy focused on quality improvement and finding solutions to previous barriers. After aligning the legacy Departments of Public Health and Human Services, the new agency created a new bureau to house data sharing and privacy experts. Approaching each information-sharing request with creative thinking and commitment to finding a "yes," the team identifies opportunities for increased internal and external data sharing with the goal of improving outcomes while respecting confidentiality.	

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Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Iowa	HHS Website Redesign: Launched in November 2023, the Iowa HHS website is human-centered and was developed with input from those people served, partners, and stakeholders. Combining content from five legacy agencies, the website architecture was completely overhauled and reconfigured based on how users navigate the site. The site hosts in-depth dashboards, with datasets ranging from Medicaid enrollment to Child Welfare; these dashboards demonstrate HHS's commitment to transparency. The department's Public Health Tracking Portal and County Snapshots provide data searchers with information on disease prevalence and access to care.	Learn More
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Iowa	Hope and Opportunity in Many Environments (HOME): Iowa HHS has branded its Community-Based Services Redesign - Hope and Opportunity in Many Environments (HOME). HOME is focused on ensuring that Iowa's CBS system works for everyone so all Iowans can access high-quality services in their communities. This process will result in a redesigned waiver system with an expanded service array, supported transitions between waivers, and a waitlist based on need.	Learn More
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Iowa	Parents as Paid Care Givers: Iowa Medicaid is maintaining one key flexibility from the Public Health Emergency by allowing spouses, parents of minors, and family members to provide direct services. This includes parents, spouses, and family members hired by an agency and/or working under the Consumer Choices Option (CCO).	
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services	Iowa	Thrive Iowa: When it launches later in 2024, Iowa HHS's Thrive Iowa program will meet the dynamic needs of Iowans, supporting optimal health, promoting economic mobility, and building trusted social networks. Local navigators will rely on a robust closed-loop referral tool as a central element in its navigation services, ensuring hope-centered screening, goal-setting, referrals to community-based services and concrete supports, and thorough follow-up. Important partners in this work will include faith-based organizations, schools, food pantries, city governments, and a range of other essential economic and concrete support services and resources.	

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New York State Office of Children and Family Services	New York	New York State Office of Children and Family Services in partnership with the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), the Center for Guaranteed Income Research (CGIR), University of Pennsylvania, the Redlich Horowitz Foundation and Youth Research, Institute (YRI) has launched a Direct Cash Transfer Research Pilot program. Specifically, New York is offering an infusion of cash to a small number of families at risk for child welfare engagement as part of a pilot project in participating counties. In August 2023, the pilot project launched with an enrollment of 150 households that will receive $500 per month for 12 months, totaling $6,000 per family. The CGIR will execute a randomized controlled trial (RCT) to determine the impacts of cash stipends on recipients' overall health and well-being, with particular attention to child welfare system involvement.	
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	North Carolina	Cross-agency Enrollment and Data Infrastructure: Over the past two years, NCDHHS has built a scalable infrastructure and automated process to pull and house Medicaid, SNAP, and WIC cross-program enrollment data to identify individuals who are enrolled in Medicaid, SNAP, or WIC and likely eligible but unenrolled in another one of those three programs, identifying at least 200,000 for targeted outreach for enrollment in WIC.	
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	North Carolina	Improving Multichannel SNAP Program Access: NCDHHS enhanced its online integrated eligibility system, built texting functionality, implemented eNotices for SNAP recipients, and implemented a human-centered redesign of the SNAP Website.	
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services	North Carolina	SNAP Flexibility to Improve Processing Times: North Carolina is working to implement a SNAP non-merit flexibility to improve processing times and allow merit-based staff to focus on tasks that only they can do, such as interviewing and certification.	
Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Expanding Eligibility and Implementing Summer EBT: ODHS plans to further enhance services by updating notices, expanding eligibility criteria for people, including youth with special health care needs and implementing programs such as Summer EBT to support up to 294,000 children facing food insecurity.	

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Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Improved Mobile Access to Benefits Access: Oregon made key improvements in the last year, including the introduction of the Oregon ONE Mobile app to manage benefits, automation of communication processes using QR codes and robotic process automation—that resulted in 96 percent of returned mail generating text messages, emails, and communication that updated our databases—the implementation of appointment reminders and address updates.	
Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Improved Cross-Agency Benefit Determinations: ODHS has adopted a more human-centered, coordinated approach to benefit determinations and partners with two more state agencies, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC).	
Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Improving Language Access: Moving from seven automated languages hard coded in systems to more than 100 languages for notices through a secure cloud solution, transitioning eligibility systems to cloud environments.	
Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Multimodal Benefits Access: In addition to medical, people in Oregon can apply for food, cash and child care benefits online, over the phone or in person at a local office through the Oregon ONE Eligibility system with a single online application. People can learn more on our webpage benefits.oregon.gov.	
Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Policy Actions to Improve Benefits Access: Oregon remains committed to exploring policy options that promote self-service and paperless solutions, enhance cultural and linguistic equity, and prioritize human-centered customer service practices supported by technology.	
Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Streamlining Benefits Access Procedures: Oregon has implemented a structured renewal schedule, extended response times, and upcoming policy initiatives such as the OHP Bridge program, a basic health plan designed to increase access for adults with higher incomes. Oregon has also leveraged technology and community partnerships to streamline processes, share data, and reduce unnecessary paperwork for people seeking to maintain their benefits.	Learn More

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Oregon Department of Human Services	Oregon	Using Technology to Safely Automate Benefits Processes: ODHS is committed to exploring the use of technologies like Interactive voice response (IVR) and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) to automate processes like EBT card replacement requests, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Periodic Reports, and application status updates.	
Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services	Rhode Island	Continuous Medicaid Coverage for Children: Provided continuous Medicaid coverage for children, regardless of family income and ongoing Medicaid eligibility, for 12 months after the COVID-19 public health emergency.	
Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services	Rhode Island	Cross-Agency Coordination of Unwinding Outreach: Rhode Island established an interagency state team to conduct a public awareness campaign, develop a network of non-government organizations to help with Medicaid awareness, and partnered with state health exchange to provide a warm handoff for people who no longer qualified for Medicaid.	
Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services	Rhode Island	Extend PHE Health Benefits Flexibilities: Rhode Island submitted an 1115 waiver request from CMS Extended Rhode Island's 1115 waiver for a variety of means of expanding access to and use of home- and community-based services, long-term services and supports, and other programs.	
Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services	Rhode Island	Implement a Data Sharing Ecosystem: EOHHS' Data Ecosystem draws from multiple state data sources to develop user-friendly data tools that support research and operational needs while prioritizing careful governance and anonymization, including customized reports, data extracts, and interactive dashboards.	
Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services	Rhode Island	Implement Early Intervention Dashboard: Using data from the Data Ecosystem, Rhode Island is soon launching an online Early Intervention Dashboard to provide transparency and track referrals, access to services, and the early childhood workforce.	
Virginia Department of Social Services	Virginia	Interstate Low Income Household Water Assistance Program Rollout: Successfully rolled out LIHWAP program consolidated additional funds from other states who had difficulty standing up LIHWAP.	
Virginia Department of Social Services	Virginia	Summer EBT: VDSS is actively working to add Summer EBT to its support for Virginia.	

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Virginia Department of Social Services	Virginia	User-Centered Redesign of Benefits Applications: VDSS will implement a human-centered redesign of its beneficiary-facing benefits access and application system to improve benefits access and customer experience.	
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Assisting Refugees and Immigrants. The DSHS Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance administers federally funded programs that support eligible individuals, including employment preparation and training, health and wellness supports, immigration assistance and naturalization services, whole-family services, job placement, English-language training, and Refugee Cash Assistance. This new bill codifies the work of ORIA in state statute and requires DSHS to coordinate statewide efforts to support the economic and social integration and basic needs of immigrants and refugees arriving and resettling in Washington. It also authorizes DSHS to administer services to immigrants who are ineligible for federally funded services.	Learn More
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Automated Renewals. WSDSHS uses IT bots to access information and automate renewals when possible to determine ongoing eligibility for people in our public benefits systems (food, cash and medical assistance, long-term care, support for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities, etc.).	
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Cash Assistance Time Limits Exemptions. The Legislature narrowly expanded TANF time limit extension criteria to include families with a child under age 2 in the home that qualify for an infant, toddler, or post-partum exemption from WorkFirst. Our data shows time-limit policies disproportionately affect families of color and families who do not meet existing hardship criteria and may have no other foundational means to help support their children.	Learn More
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Child Support Pass-Through. Beginning January 2026, all current child support collected in a month will be passed through to households that receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.	Learn More
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Community Assemblies. Committed $2 million to support a pilot of a statewide network of community assemblies to provide community input from low-income and Black, Indigenous, and communities of color into the work of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.	Learn More

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Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Cross-Agency Collaboration and System Improvements. The social services, Medicaid, and child welfare agencies in Washington state are partnering to ensure youth and adults who have complex and acute physical and behavioral health needs have the facilities and care they need.	
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Expanding Diversion Cash Assistance. Beginning January 2025, the Diversion Cash Assistance benefit will be increased to $2,000. As an alternative to TANF, diversion cash provides one month of assistance in a 12-month period to families who meet income and resource limits for the TANF program but only need temporary, emergent help.	Learn More
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Expanding Medicaid Alternative Programs. Medicaid Chapter 1115 waiver programs allow people to access services without exhausting all their savings and financial assets.	
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Expanding Presumptive Medicaid Eligibility. This allows individuals to access Medicaid long-term services and support sooner and while their applications are processed.	
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services	Washington	Human-Centered Design Work: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services partnered with Benefits Data Trust and Civilla for integrated eligibility/application design.	

Nonprofit Highlights

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American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		Aligned Customer-Centered Ecosystem of Services and Supports (ACCESS): An initiative led by APHSA in partnership with the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) to align modernization efforts across the health, human services, and labor ecosystems states are undertaking in service of promoting truly customer-centered improvements to program design and delivery. Through the project, APHSA and NASWA are creating a strategic roadmap for system alignment that they will deploy to support their members in fostering data and technology integration strategies that improve customer access across systems and embed customer voice.	Learn More
American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		Building a Framework for Family-Centered Child Support: APHSA, in collaboration with the National Child Support Engagement Association (NCSEA) and the National Council of Child Support Directors (NCCSD), is leading a multi-pronged effort to convene child support directors, TANF administrators, parent leaders, and other national stakeholders to construct a shared framework for designing family-centered child support policies within public benefits and human services programs. APHSA is planning an upcoming collaboration with lived experience consultants to work directly with interdisciplinary state teams to use the framework to advance child support policy and practice reforms that center on whole family needs.	Learn More
American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		Economic and Concrete Supports Community of Practice: APHSA is leading, in partnership with Chapin Hall, a national community of practice bringing child welfare and economic assistance agency practitioners together to explore how to better align the delivery of public benefits and services for families who are at risk of child welfare involvement as a result of poverty-based risk factors. The community is actively exchanging models and best practices for breaking down silos across agencies to help families have access to the economic and concrete supports that we all need to thrive.	

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Aspen Institute Financial Security Program		Supported by a grant from the Families and Workers Fund, Aspen FSP is convening Aspen Leadership Cohort to Modernize State Benefits in 2023 and 2024, bringing together executives and leaders from eight states with the goal of building a more responsive, accessible safety net, where participants can rapidly apply for public benefits, receive benefits as quickly as possible, and receive support services needed to build long-term financial security.	Learn More
Aspen Institute Financial Security Program		Since the summer of 2023, Aspen FSP co-hosted cross-sector working group meetings between federal agencies, nonprofit experts, practitioners, and key public benefits staff from over 25 states. 2024's new series of work groups to improve public benefits delivery includes work across a range of areas: AI & Automation, Data Sharing, Policy & Requirements, Talent, and Texting & Notifications. The working groups are open to new members interested in these areas.	Learn More
Benefits Data Trust	Illinois. Iowa, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Vermont	Telephonic Signatures: Supported by a grant from the Families and Workers Fund, Benefits Data Trust is working with SNAP agencies in six states to simplify how people sign their SNAP application forms when they apply over the phone. This will eliminate the need for agency staff to mail a paper application to be signed and returned, saving both time and work for agency staff and applicants.	Learn More
Benefits Data Trust	Rhode Island	Federal Waivers to Reduce Medicaid Churn: Rhode Island tackled the challenges of the Medicaid unwinding in collaboration with Benefits Data Trust, making use of federal waivers that provided additional flexibility throughout the recertification process. These waivers have allowed the state time and breathing room to focus on long-term improvements that will reduce Medicaid churn and the cycling of individuals on and off Medicaid coverage.	Learn More
Benefits Data Trust	Washington	Human-Centered Design: Benefits Data Trust supported the Washington State Health & Human Services Enterprise Coalition (HHS Coalition) to develop a State Action Plan to improve access to benefit programs. Through this work, the HHS Coalition identified 155 redundant questions across several program applications and founded a Community of Practice focused on using human-centered design to improve benefits access, which has more than 100 human services employee members.	Learn More

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Benefits Data Trust		Data Sharing Playbook: Data sharing across benefit programs is one of the most effective tools for improving access to programs and resources. Based on interviews with dozens of government officials and other experts, Benefits Data Trust developed a playbook to help governments and other organizations conduct effective, responsible data sharing so that more people can access public assistance.	Learn More
CLASP	Maryland	Technical Assistance for Child Care Delivery: CLASP provided detailed technical assistance to Maryland to support the implementation of presumptive eligibility in 2022, allowing families to receive child care assistance when they need it, without paperwork delays. CLASP supported other states in considering this policy and supported ACF to encourage other states to adopt these policies.	Learn More Here and Here
CLASP	Mississippi, North Carolina	Engaging community in developing policy priorities: The Building Equitable Economic Supports in the South (BEES) project focuses on authentically engaging people with lived experience with public benefits in the conversations around barriers to participation and identifying priorities for changing policies to improve access. CLASP is also engaging moms and childcare providers to explore their priorities for improving access to childcare assistance and also engaging moms to identify needed changes in TANF. In North Carolina, eight community groups are engaging with their constituencies to understand people's experience applying for or renewing Medicaid coverage and identifying challenges and possible solutions.	Learn More
Code for America	Colorado	Simplifying Online Benefits Applications and Management: Code for America has launched a project to simplify the experience of applying for benefits via PEAK, Colorado's online benefits application and management website. This partnership includes supporting program administrators to capture and analyze client data easily and consistently, allowing the state to better understand the client experience and outcomes of accessing and maintaining benefits.	
Code for America	Louisiana	Digital Assistant Pilot: Code for America is running a digital assister pilot in New Orleans that not only helps Louisianians apply for SNAP benefits but also supports research on cross-enrollment opportunities to potentially eligible applicants and deepening our understanding of cross-enrollment best practices.	

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Data Labs (Georgetown University - Beeck Center)	Colorado	Data Labs contributed to Colorado's historic $250 million investment in housing and homelessness grant programs via the passage of House bills HB22-1304 and HB22-1377. This is the first time that the state's Department of Housing has funded efforts related to collecting, managing, and analyzing data and integrating data systems to advance communities' homelessness efforts.	[Learn More](#)
Digital Benefits Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center)		The Digital Benefits Network conducts research and builds data to report on the current status of benefits IT systems and inform the future. For example, the network conducted a landscape analysis and built a data set to report on how digital authentication and identity proofing are currently being used in core public benefits programs in every state and territory. From the data set, the network highlighted promising practices in digital identity from select states, including California, Colorado, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, and Virginia.	[Learn More](#)
Digital Benefits Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center)		The Digital Benefits Network hosts the Rules as Code Community of Practice as a cross-sector peer community for practitioners working on translating public benefits policy into the software code for eligibility and enrollment systems. The community builds on the network's multi-year research exploring how policy is currently communicated by states in manuals and software and how future frameworks and tools, including AI, may help bring efficiency, transparency, and equity in translating policy to code. This Community of Practice is open to new members.	[Learn More](#)
Digital Benefits Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center) & American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		The Digital Benefits Network and APHSA host the Digital Benefits Hub, an ever-growing, open-source library of promising practices in benefits delivery. Practitioners can find over 700 resources, including the latest research, playbooks, webinars, example projects, and more, to help improve access to public benefits. In less than two years, the Digital Benefits Hub has been leveraged by 13,000 unique users. The Hub accepts submissions of materials from the ecosystem.	[Learn More](#)
Digital Benefits Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center) & American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		The Digital Benefits Network convenes the Advisory Panel for Excellence in Digital Benefits Delivery (APEX) in partnership with APHSA. The panel empowers government and nonprofit practitioners to explore accessible, equitable, and ethical service journeys and to elevate actionable examples of excellence that can be broadly shared and adopted across the ecosystem. The group provides expert advice on best practices, desired outcomes, and trends in digital benefits delivery to	

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		inform meaningful content for the Digital Benefits Hub.	
Digital Service Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center)	Maryland, Pennsylvania	DSN has supported the establishment of digital service teams in the State of Pennsylvania and the State of Maryland by supporting the hiring of team members and providing thought leadership.	Learn More
Digitial Service Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center)		DSN has conducted research to support government practitioners in improving service delivery. The research supports a deeper understanding of policy tools that influence digital transformation at the state and territorial levels. DSN founded and runs two primary communities of practices, the Chief Digital Service Officers (CDSO) and User Experience and Research (UX), collectively covering 21 states. Both communities create opportunities for government practitioners to connect and to enable the crowdsourcing of resources, templates, case studies, and policies that can benefit each community. This network is open to new members.	Learn More
Digitial Service Network (Georgetown University - Beeck Center)		DSN hosts an open-source Resource Library that houses over 250 job descriptions that digital service teams have leveraged to create new roles centered on improving service delivery.	Learn More
New America - New Practice Lab	Maryland	The New Practice Lab worked with the State of Maryland, which is launching its paid family leave program in 2026, to improve its IT system, processes, and organizational design, build up the talent of its team, and establish cross-agency coordination and sharing of learnings.	
New America - New Practice Lab	New Jersey	The New Practice Lab is working with the State of New Jersey to improve the delivery of their paid family leave benefits and improving benefits access and delivery by simplifying beneficiary materials and eliminating elements that were confusing to users.	Learn More
Share Our Strength & American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		Improving Nutrition Program Access for Multilingual Families: Share Our Strength and APHSA are partnering to increase SNAP enrollment and benefits access for linguistically diverse speakers, primarily refugee and eligible immigrant families by convening community-based organizations, SNAP directors, and outreach workers to better support nutrition agencies and community partners. A lived experience committee will provide input from multilingual speakers and those who have experience accessing government assistance programs to inform future work.	

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Share Our Strength & American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)		Streamlining SNAP with Other Nutrition Programs: Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign and APHSA invested in six states to enroll more eligible families in SNAP and WIC through the Coordinating SNAP & Nutrition Supports (CSNS) program, designed to promote equity and combat hunger. These investments are using data to advance SNAP agency innovation, improve cross-department collaboration and better understand gaps in food access. These grants are also helping facilitate partnerships with community organizations, and improving experiences for families using innovative methods to deliver services and engage with those who have lived expertise. After the first round of grants, more than 54,000 people were able to enroll in SNAP and WIC because of CSNS with the new systems still providing ongoing benefits. Building on lessons learned, a second set of grants in four states looks to further advance equity priorities.	Learn More
Share Our Strength, American Public Human Services Association (APHSA), & Code for America		Improving systems to eliminate summer hunger: Supported by a grant from the Families and Workers Fund, Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign has launched a multi-year initiative to ensure the new Summer EBT program is effectively implemented nationwide. Summer EBT has the potential to reach 30 million kids with over $3 billion in benefits. This support includes providing grants for state agencies to eliminate technical hurdles, streamline the application process and better promote the available resources for families. Through a partnership with Code for America, agencies can receive technical and resource development support, including the Summer EBT Playbook. Share Our Strength has also partnered with APHSA to establish dedicated peer-to-peer forums for SNAP, Child Nutrition, and Tribal agencies engaged in Summer EBT.	Learn More
US Digital Response	New Jersey	Language Access Tools: Supported by a grant from the Families and Workers Fund, USDR is developing Spanish plain language translation tools and content guides to help unemployment insurance agencies at the federal and state levels. Recently, USDR collaborated with the New Jersey Department of Labor to create plain language versions of forms in both English and Spanish. Beyond simple translation, they ensured the content was inclusive and easily understandable. This involved validating translations and developing a Spanish translation toolkit as a reusable resource.	Learn More

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US Digital Response		Multistate Tech Workforce Recruitment: USDR specializes in helping state governments build digital service teams to bridge the gap between policy and implementation, with many efforts focused on expanding access to critical safety net programs. Our comprehensive workforce support enables states to hire leaders and technologists with the right skills to develop modern, user-friendly systems for services like paid family and medical leave, unemployment insurance, and other public assistance initiatives. From chief digital officers to front-line developers, these hires play a vital role in creating a digital experience that improves program accessibility.	Learn More
US Digital Response		Providing Procurement Support for States: USDR partners with agencies to streamline their procurement, budgeting, and oversight processes for software projects by providing training and guidance on modern development and acquisition practices tailored to the agency's specific needs. This included recently training a new state team and partner agencies on procurement best practices, user-centered design, and Agile software development, along with providing direct support in the rollout of an entirely new system for a new paid family and medical leave system.	Learn More