larimer county workforce center

DREAM BIG SET GOALS TAKE ACTION

Strategies to Engage TANF Recipients





About Larimer County

- Larimer County is in Northern Colorado, encompasses 2,640 square miles, and has an estimated population of 333,577.
- We're home of Colorado State University (CSU) and Rocky Mountain National Park.

• We're known for innovative manufacturing, craft beer and outdoor adventure.

















WILDERNESS . WILDLIFE . WONDER

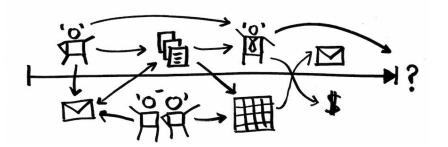
About the Larimer County Workforce Center

- The Workforce Center provides all Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) related program services with emphasis on employment.
- County caseload averages 650 per month.



How We Got Here

- Funding to the Workforce Center for TANF services decreased 43% over two years.
- Needed new strategy to provide meaningful services to our families with less staff AND we knew that <u>there had to be a better way</u>.
- Began working with Mathematica Policy Research (May 2015) and learned about executive functioning, behavioral economics, toxic stress, and evidence-based goal achievement strategies.
- Moved from a Work Participation Rate (WPR) program ~~ to an Employment-Focused program ~~ to a <u>Goal Achievement program</u>.



A New Purpose Emerged

- The foundation of the Larimer County Works program focuses on evidence-based goal achievement strategies.
- The strategies are supported by three specific approaches:
 - (1) reducing external stress;
 - (2) cultivating responsive and supportive relationships; and
 - (3) building life and work skills.
- We work with our families to set and achieve their goals, earn personal success, and increase their economic security.
- We have a standardized coaching process that leads to an individualized experience for the customer through integrated, <u>in-person coaching</u> and <u>goal-oriented technology</u> called My Journey to Success (MJTS).

Why Goal Achievement?

- Goal Achievement builds upon skills and experiences many customers already possess.
- Progress moves at the speed of trust ~~ customers select the life areas/topics that are important to work on.
- Customers are engaged ~~ they identify and set goals with relative ease.
- It's portable ~~ customers can take it with them and apply to other parts of their lives.

Why Goal Achievement?

- Coach engagement ~~ supports personal coaching styles while providing a standardized coaching methodology.
- Customers see progress and respond more favorably to discussions of accountability.
- We are still learning, discovering, and refining!





Two Key Parts: In-Person Coaching + Goal-Oriented Technology

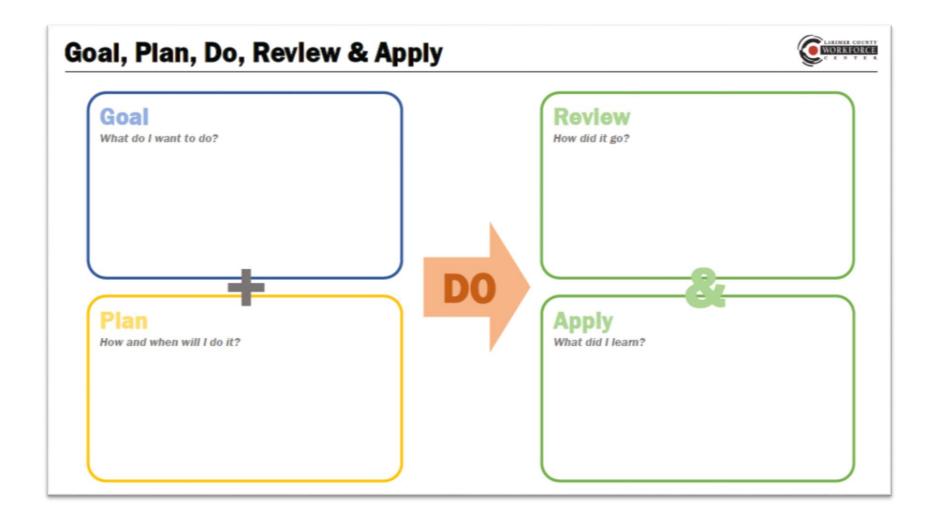
Part I: In-Person Coaching

- Standardized coaching model
 - A Snapshot of My Journey (i.e., Assessment is an ongoing process)
 - Goal, Plan, Do, Review & Apply
 - My Roadmap
 - Potholes and Detours
 - Goal Storming

In-Person Coaching: A Snapshot of My Journey

AS	пар.	shot	of N	1y)	ourv	My Name: Date://							
1) Where do you feel you and your family currently are in these Life Areas? (Fill in a circle in each Pathway column)													
Life Areas →	Family Stability			Well-Being			Financial & Legal		& Training		Job Search & Employment		
Pathways →	Housing	Dependent Care	Transportation	Personal Well-Being	Family Well-Being	Social Support	Financial Health	Legal	Education/ Training	Technology Skills	Job Search Skills	Career Exploration	Employment
	We have stable and safe housing.	We have reliable child care and a reliable back up plan.	We have reliable transport- ation and a backup plan.	I am doing well and am fully able to work.	My family is doing well and supports me.	I have consistent and effective social support.	My income is stable, I am current on my bills, I have money for saving or spending.	I have no current legal issues.	I have a degree or industry-recognized certificate(s) in a high demand occupation.	I regularly use technology to complete work tasks. I can use different software.	I am being invited to interviews and/or I have been offered a job.	I know my career pathway. I have a plan for advancing my career.	l love my job!
Thriving Stable, but Could Improve Area of Need Area of Significant Need	\$000000	processor	Coococo	Coococo	\$500000	poooooo	Coococo	Coococo	Coordinate	poocoop	Constant	Cooccop	\$
	My family doesn't have housing.	We have no child care.	We have no transportation.	My personal well-being needs my attention.	Family challenges interfere with my progress.	I have no social support or my network is not supportive.	My income is not enough to cover my basic living expenses.	I work certain jobs or I have lost jobs because of my legal issues.	I don't have a high school diploma, GED or entry-level certificate.	I don't have access or I don't know how to use computers or smart phones.	I don't know where to find work; the jobs I apply for don't hire me.	I don't know what I would like to do for work.	I am working in a survival job that I don't like or I am not working.
2) What is your current, overall stress level right now? (Fill in a circle) 4) Is there something specific you want to talk about during this meeting													
with your coach?													
3) What is g	going on in	your life th	nat you war	nt your coa	ch to know	5) Do we need to update any of your information? (Example: address, phone #, email, employment, etc.)							

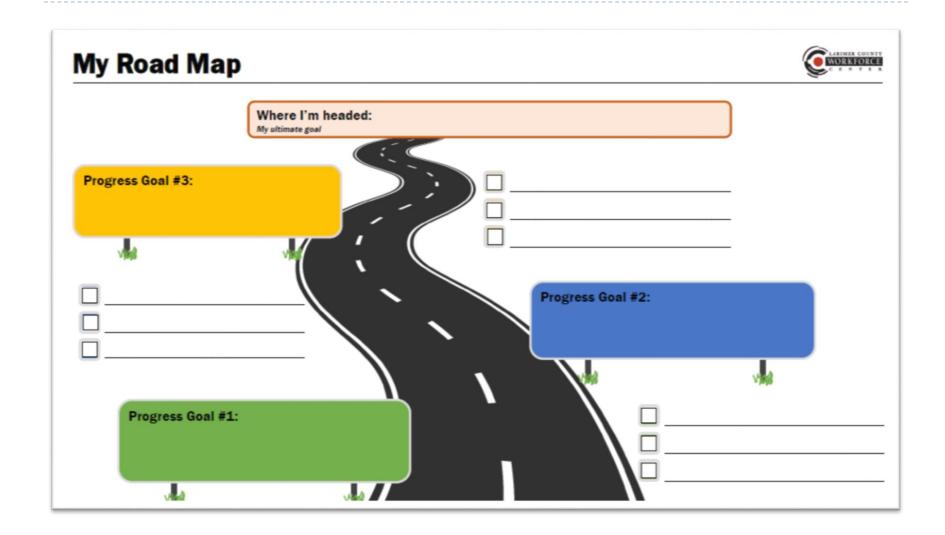
In-Person Coaching: Goal, Plan, Do, Review & Apply



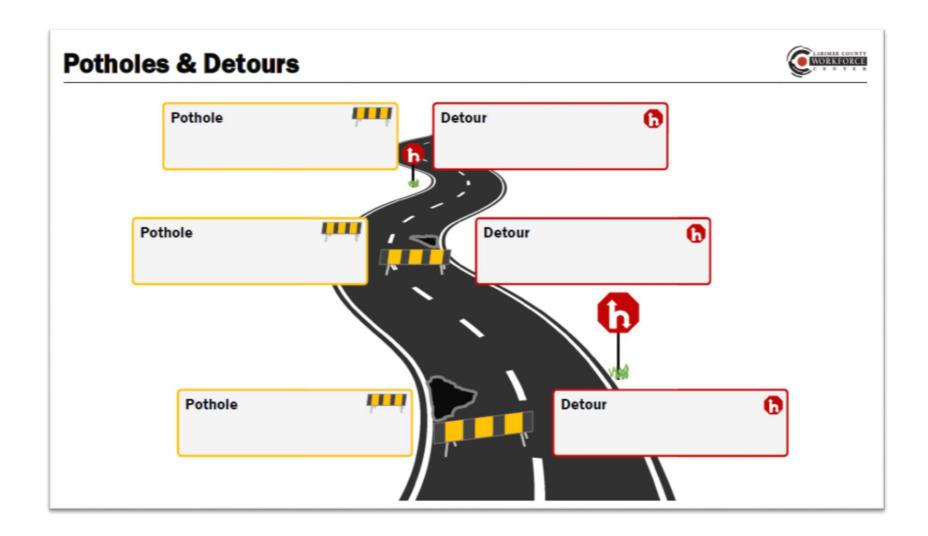
In-Person Coaching: Goal Storming



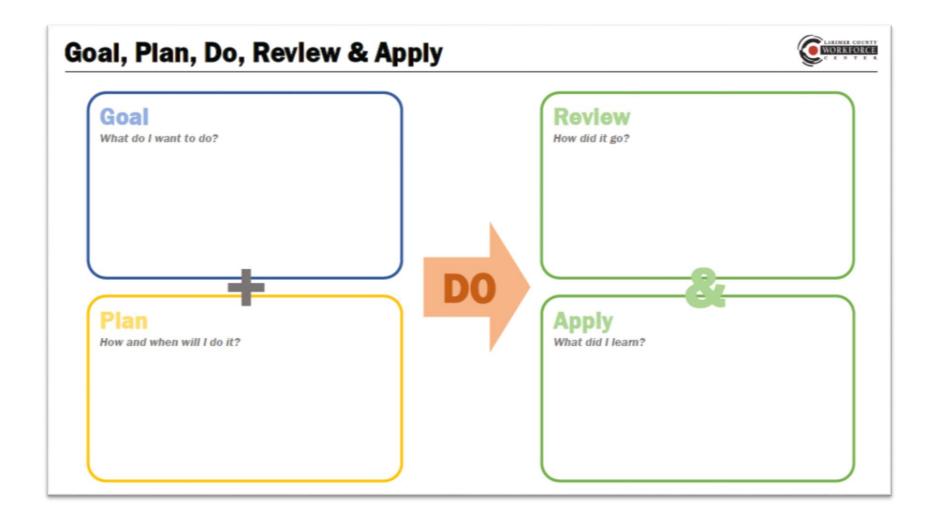
In-Person Coaching: My Road Map



In-Person Coaching: Potholes & Detours



In-Person Coaching: Goal, Plan, Do, Review & Apply



Part II: Goal-Oriented Technology Called My Journey to Success

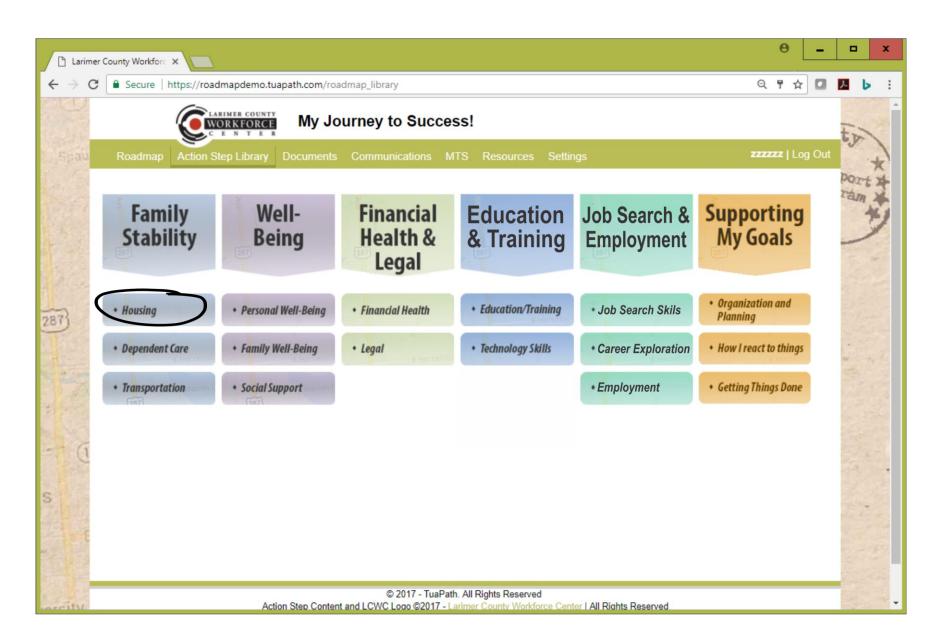


Goal-Oriented Technology: My Journey to Success

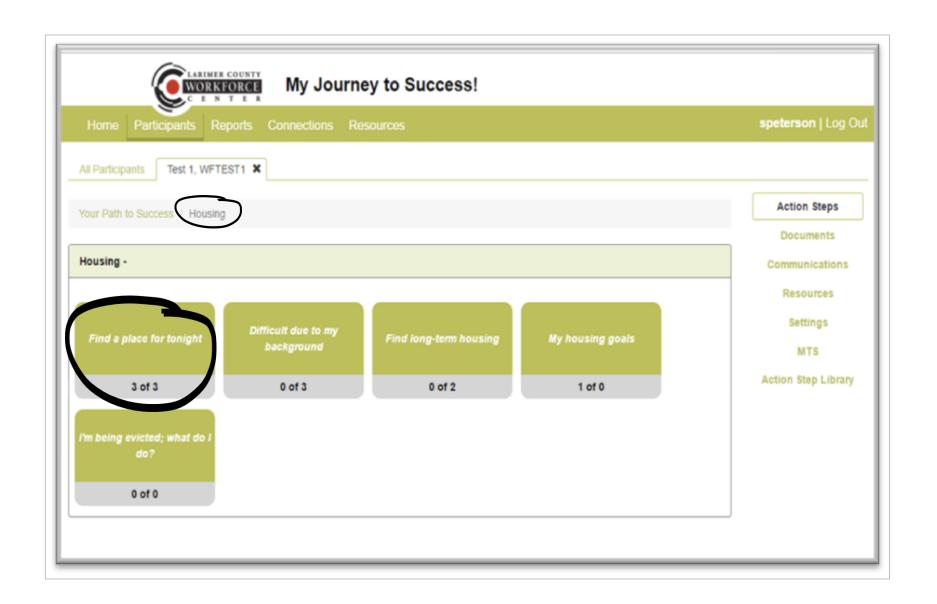
- A technology built upon insights from behavioral science and related fields regarding the successful use of goal-oriented skills.
- The technology absorbs cognitive burdens and reduces barriers faced by clients by breaking complex tasks into smaller, more attainable action steps, and encourages the user toward goal achievement.
- Reduces staff responsibilities by automating data input and client notifications, freeing staff to more meaningfully engage with clients and their goals.
- An accessible, 24/7, two-way facing technology that can be easily accessed on a mobile device.

My Journey to Success: What it looks like

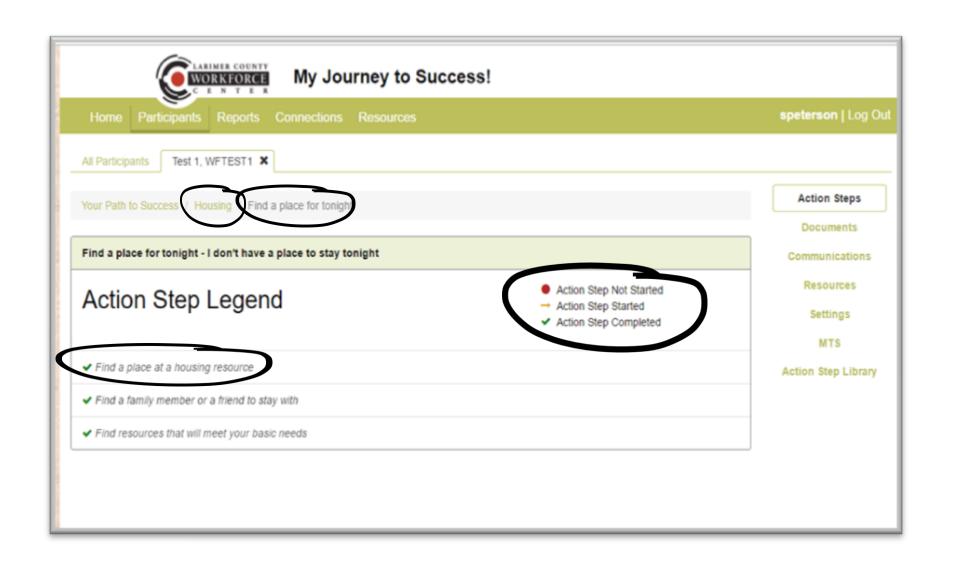




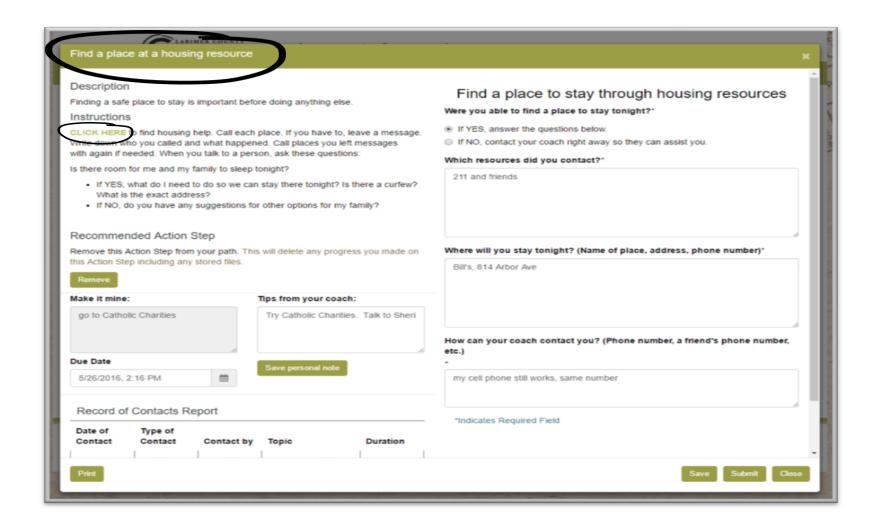
My Journey to Success: Home Page



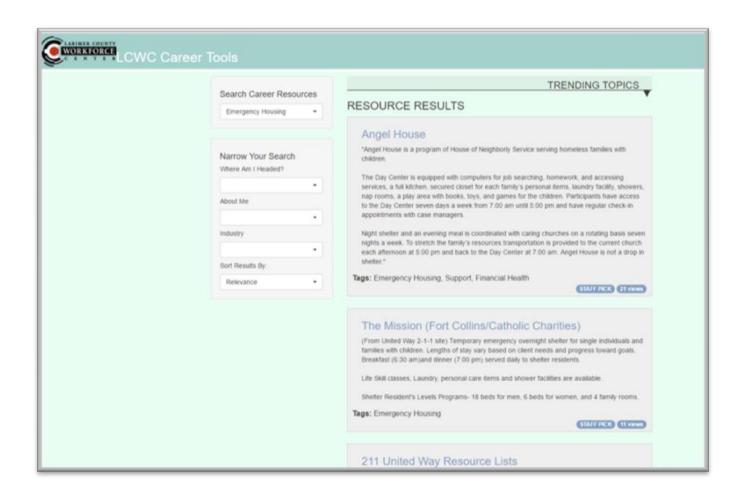
My Journey to Success: Housing



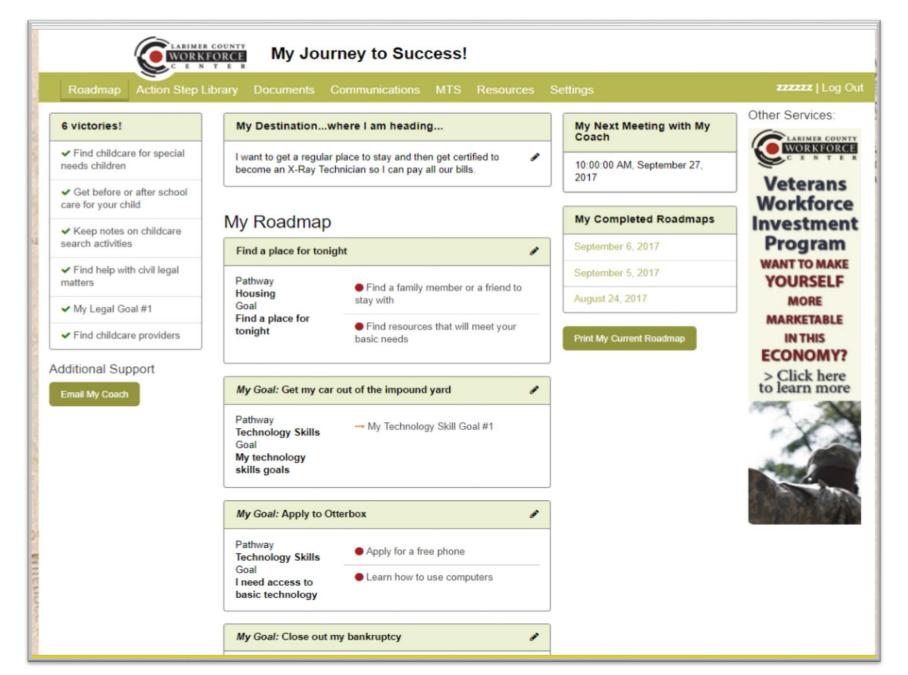
My Journey to Success: Action Step Legend



My Journey to Success: Housing Resources



My Journey to Success: Housing Resources



My Journey to Success: My Roadmap

What Customers are Saying:

- "Felt good"
- "A good use of my time"
- "We accomplished a lot today"
- "Can we meet next week?"
- "This made sense to me."



More Engagement Strategies

 Branded marketing materials to reflect more accurately the program we are and what we aspire to be



More Engagement Strategies... continued

- Trained staff in Motivational Interviewing and WOOP (Wish, Outcome, Obstacle and Plan)
- Conducted road tests for many new parts of program ~~ actively seek input & feedback from customers and other affected parties
- Offered incentives for completing survey (random selection; debit gift cards)
- Redesigned lobby and interviewing rooms
- Intentfully support our staff = supporting your customers

Final Thought:



A Sincere Thanks to Our Partners











Strategies to Engage TANF Recipients

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