ADVISORY GROUP TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES WORKSHEET

The **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)** program is designed to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency. States receive block grants to design and operate programs that accomplish one of the purposes of the TANF program.

The four purposes of the TANF program are to:

- Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes;
- Reduce the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage;
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies; and
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Discussion Items

• Identify the amount of and reasoning for unused TANF funds.

• Are TANF funds being used for the intended purposes or are such funds being diverted to other programs or non-TANF purposes?

 How can TANF funds be better used to stabilize families economically, help provide educational opportunities, and provide parenting classes and identify other support services that could be made available through TANF funding to strengthen families?

• Relevant stakeholders