Reimagining TANF to Center Black Families

Reimagining Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) by centering the needs of Black families would improve the well-being and economic security of all families with children.

- Establish a federal minimum benefit so that no family falls below a certain income level.
- End and bar mandatory work requirements.
- Change TANF’s funding structure to prioritize cash assistance, address funding inequities between states, and maintain value over time.
- Bar behavioral requirements, time limits, and other eligibility exclusions.
- Refocus TANF agencies on helping families to address their basic needs and improve their long-term well-being.

Acknowledging and eliminating policies rooted in an anti-Black legacy would open pathways to opportunity for parents and children.