

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

Pat McCrory Governor Aldona Z. Wos, M.D. Ambassador (Ret.) Secretary DHHS

Sherry S. Bradsher Division Director

March 7, 2013

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Work First Program Administrators and Supervisors

Subject: Benefit Diversion

The 2010-2013 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan was amended to allow Benefit Diversion (BD) as a county option. Based on this change, the Division is requesting each county to complete the attached survey with the county's decision to offer or not to offer BD to Work First applicants for state fiscal year 2013-2014. Counties may amend their decision to offer BD each state fiscal year by providing written notification to the Division. This is to ensure that all applicants are provided equal opportunity to receive benefits or services under the Work First program. Benefit Diversion will continue to be monitored by the Division and will result in a monitoring finding and potential County Responsible Overpayment (CROP) if provided differently than reported.

All counties are asked to complete and submit the attached survey by **April 8, 2013.** If your county does not complete and return the survey by the deadline above, it will be documented that your county **will** offer BD. If you have any questions, please contact <u>WorkFirst.Support@dhhs.nc.gov.</u>

Sincerely,

Lauid Locklear

David Locklear, Assistant Chief Economic and Family Services

Attachment

EFS-WF-04-2013