

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

325 North Salisbury Street 2420 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2420 Courier # 56-20-25

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

October 29, 2010

RE: JobBoost Subsidized Employment Program

Dear County Director of Social Services:

The Division of Social Services is taking advantage of approximately \$4 million Federal TANF and \$1.5 million private foundation funds that are available for a new subsidized employment program called JobBoost. The program will create up to 1,000 jobs for TANF eligible individuals and provide needed experience to maintain long-term employment.

The proposed project targets counties with high unemployment rates and high number of TANF eligible individuals. 34 counties with the highest unemployment rates and the highest number of individuals at or below 200% of the Federal poverty level were selected as potential participants in the JobBoost Program. Based on the methodology described the following counties will be extended an opportunity to participate in the program.

Alamance	Lee
Beaufort	Lenoir
Bladen	Lincoln
Brunswick	McDowell
Burke	Mecklenburg
Cabarrus	Nash
Caldwell	Richmond
Catawba	Robeson
Cleveland	Rockingham
Columbus	Rowan
Davidson	Rutherford
Edgecombe	Scotland
Gaston	Stanly
Guilford	Surry
Halifax	Vance
Harnett	Wilkes
Iredell	Wilson

JobBoost will provide a flat wage subsidy of \$6.00 per hour. It will be the responsibility of the hiring employer to provide remaining wages up to the minimum wage level or higher. The employer will also be responsible for all taxes or other wage benefits. Funds for the Job Boost Program will be available until spent or a maximum of 20 weeks once implemented.

Counties who are interested in implementing the JobBoost program should submit a brief proposal which addresses the following areas:

- Name of County submitting proposal (address, primary contact with phone number and email address)
- Brief Description of Proposal (include project overview, target population, plan for implementation, and plan for monitoring of job placement)
- Goals and Outcome Measures (must include the following)
 - 1. Number of participants and employers by industry sector
 - 2. Median wage paid per participant
 - 3. Average duration of the subsidized work period
 - 4. Rate of continued employment with the participating employer upon completion of the subsidized work period
- Community Partners/Employers
- Proposed Implementation timeframes
- Statement of reporting: All subsidized employment expenditures will be reimbursed through the 1571 Funding Authorization Process
- Budget (include anticipated expenditures, application of \$6 per hour wage subsidy and anticipated employer amount, justification for amount requested, total amount requested)

The effective implementation date for the JobBoost program is planned for December 1, 2010. Counties should submit a letter or e-mail confirming intent to participate in the project to <u>dean.simpson@dhhs.nc.gov</u> by Friday, November 5, 2010. Specific county JobBoost plans must be submitted by Monday, November 15, 2010 via email to <u>dean.simpson@dhhs.nc.gov</u> or by fax at (919) 334-1266.

The county plans submitted will be reviewed for feasibility, outcome achievement, rapid implementation, and utilization of existing resources. The plans will be reviewed and a response will be provided to the designated county contact by Friday, November 19, 2010. An informational conference call will be scheduled once the counties who will implement a JobBoost Program are identified.

Please feel free to contact me at (919) 334-1234 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Dean Simpson

Dean Simpson, Chief Economic and Family Services

Cc: Sherry Bradsher Manfred Emmrich

EFS-WF-42-2010