

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

Economic Independence Section • 325 North Salisbury Street 2420 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2420

Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary Pheon E. Beal, Director (919) 733-3055

June 26, 2002

Re: TANF Data Collection System for Federal Reporting

Dear County Director of Social Services:

The TANF Data Collection System (TDC) was developed as an internet-based tool and is used by counties to capture data for federal reporting. Because the data that is collected is of a confidential nature, safeguards must be in place to prevent any disclosure of that information over the Internet. Because of the requirement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regarding transmission of confidential client information, we must begin using a higher standard of security for the website for TDC. The web address for the TDC System is:

https://www.tdc.dhhs.state.nc.us/dhhs/pages/TANFDCLogin.asp.

In order for counties to access and use the TDC website beginning August 1, 2002, all browsers must support 128 bit encryption of data. This includes the following versions of available browsers:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 or later
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.02 (Windows NT 4.0+ only) with a special patch or later
- Netscape Navigator 4.06 or later
- Microsoft Money 98
- Intuit Quicken

If you do not currently have one of these versions of Internet Browsers on your desktop, you must upgrade to meet the security requirements. These upgrades may be downloaded free from the websites of Microsoft (<u>http://www.microsoft.com</u>) or Netscape (<u>http://www.netscape.com</u>).

It is imperative counties enter data timely into the TDC System so the State can meet the federal reporting time-lines. Failure to do so may result in the State having a monetary sanction imposed against the TANF block grant. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your Work First Representative or the Performance Reporting Staff at the Central Office.

Sincerely,

Wilbert R. Morris, Chief Economic Independence Section

SM EI-17-2002