

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

Economic and Family Services Updates

- Disaster Food and Nutrition Services
- Food and Nutrition Services Management Evaluations (ME)
- Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD)
- Energy Programs (CIP and LIEAP)
- WFFA Drug Testing

Disaster Food and Nutrition Services

 County Disaster Contacts

 DCD Letter posted July 9, 2014 requesting Contact Information

- Disaster FNS Training Webinar
 - DCD Letter posted August 4, 2014 regarding upcoming training webinar to be held August 19, 2014 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Food and Nutrition Services Management Evaluations (ME)

- 2013-14 FFY ME's will be completed by September 30, 2014
- 2014-15 FFY ME's will begin November 1, 2014
- Federal and State Priorities
- DCD Letter identifying counties due for ME for 2014-15 as well as areas to be reviewed will be available in October, 2014

Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD)

ABAWD Waiver

 NC qualifies for the ABAWD Waiver for FFY 2014-15 through September 30, 2015

 DCD Letter posted August 4, 2014 regarding the ABAWD Waiver

 No tracking of ABAWDS necessary while the Waiver is in effect

COLA Mass Change

- Mass Change Effective October 1, 2014
- Maximum Allotments Increased
 Household of 4 increase of \$17
- Shelter Cap Increased by \$12
- SUA, BUA and TUA Changes (not part of the COLA, but will be implemented during the COLA change

Energy Programs (CIP and LIEAP)

- Additional CIP funds will be made available within the next two weeks
- Legislative Changes
 - The outreach plan shall comply with the following:
 - (1) Ensure that eligible households are made aware of the available assistance with particular attention paid to the elderly population age 60 and above and disabled persons receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services.
 - (2) Include efforts by the county department of social services to contact other State and local governmental entities and communitybased organizations to (i) offer the opportunity to provide outreach and (ii) receive applications for energy assistance.
 - (3) Be approved by the local board of social services or human services board prior to submission.

CIP and LIEAP

- LIEAP Priority Dates
 - Energy policy effective October 1, 2014 changes the priority periods for applications
 - Elderly population age 60 and above and disabled persons receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS). Priority in LIEAP eligibility is given to these households beginning December 1st through <u>December 31st</u> of every year.
 - General application period will begin January 1 instead of February 1
 - Policy will be available by October 1, 2014
 - Webinar Training will be provided to discuss any changes with Energy Programs and Policies in early October 2014

WFFA Drug Testing Update

 Legislature appropriated funds for WFFA Drug Testing

- \$125,750 Non Reoccurring NC FAST
 System change to support drug testing
- \$218,538 Reoccurring funds for drug testing

Drug Testing Implementation

- Temporary Rules Effective October 31, 2014 (previous rules approved are null and void)
- New Effective date March 1, 2015 (Initial implementation date was August 1, 2014)
- Challenges:
 - NC FAST development within timeframes specified by the General Assembly
 - RFP Process to secure a vendor for drug testing
 - Limited amount of funding