

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

September 27, 2021

## **Dear County Directors of Social Services**

**Attention:** Energy Administrators, Managers & Supervisors

Subject: Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Block Grant Plan Revisions

**Priority:** Information Only

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties of revisions to the FY 2022 LIHEAP Block Grant Plan that were outlined in the DCDL-EFS-FNSEP-67-20219 (issued on August 13, 2021). Two items outlined in our FY 2022 Plan require a change in North Carolina General Statutes prior to implementation. We are actively working on seeking change to the statutes; in the meantime, our federal partners with the Administration of Children and Families (ACF) have approved our FY 2022 LIHEAP Block Grant Plan with the following two changes.

- Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) effective October 1, 2021, the income eligibility will remain at 130% of the Federal Poverty Level and will not be increased to 150%.
- Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) the maximum benefit amount will remain at \$600 per household and will not be increased to \$1,000.

In addition, priority group of households with individuals 60 or older or disabled receiving DAAS services can begin applying for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) benefits on December 1, 2021 instead of November 1, 2021. All other changes as outlined in the original DCDL will remain in place.

Thank you for your cooperation regarding this matter. Please contact Jasmyne.Simmons@dhhs.nc.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carla L. West, Senior Director for Economic Security

CLW/is

**EFS-FNSEP-77-2021** 

Carlo d West