



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

Economic Independence Section • 325 North Salisbury Street
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Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

March 20, 2007

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: Work First Program Administrators, Supervisors, and Staff

SUBJECT: 2007-2009 TANF State Plan

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) State Plan for FFY 2007-2009 is available for public comment effective March 19, 2007. The 45 day public comment period will end May 1, 2007. It is important to note that each county Department of Social Services (DSS) maintains a copy of this plan, which has been attached, for public viewing. Also interested citizens can view a copy of the plan at <http://ncdhhs.gov/dss/pubnotice/index.htm> and forward comments to Work.First@ncmail.net.

On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed into law the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, which reauthorized TANF through 2010. The changes associated with DRA were the most notable changes to the TANF State Plan. Some of those changes include:

- Removing the work activities definitions from the State Plan, as the federal regulations have defined the activities. The new definitions can be located in Work First Policy Section 118 III;
- Pending Work First applications for citizenship and identity documentary evidence;
- Clarifying the language to allow an increase in the length of time to receive Job Bonus

Other changes include the redesignation of two (2) counties. Wilson County has proposed to operate as an electing county, while Stokes County has proposed to operate as a standard county. It is imperative that electing counties review the eligibility criteria incorporated into the 2007-2009 State TANF to ensure it is an accurate representation of the policies.

Any additional questions regarding the TANF State Plan for FFY 2007-2009 should be forwarded to Carla McNeill, Program Consultant in the Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section, at (919)-733-4622.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Esther T. High".

Esther T. High, Acting Chief
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section

ETH/cem
Attachment

FSCWS-20-07