



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 6, 2010

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Food and Nutrition Services Employment & Training

Greetings:

We would like to thank the Division of Social Services (DSS) and the Employment Security Commission (ESC) staff for your efforts in working to make the North Carolina FNS E&T program successful. For the 2009/2010 Program Year we referred 7,548 individuals to the program and conducted an assessment on 5,351. We had 4,677 volunteer participants placed in the Job Search Component and were successful in helping 2,735 participants find employment (achieving 91% of our annual goal of 3000).

The FNS E&T program has enjoyed a long-standing partnership between our agencies and the goal has always been to help FNS recipients looking for work find work. Going from a "Mandatory" program to a "Voluntary" program has reduced, and in some cases, eliminated paperwork. The all volunteer program has also reduced the number of program participants who were not really looking for work.

For the 2010/2011 Program Year each County DSS/ESC was asked to submit a Plan of Operation. This Plan outlined the process and efforts we will take to help us reach our statewide goal of getting a minimum of 10,000 participants in the E&T program.

We are very confident that we will not only achieve our county and statewide goals but surpass them. These tough economic times affords us an excellent opportunity to promote participation in this program, especially as we see the Unemployment Insurance benefits decrease and application for Food and Nutrition Services increase.

Keep in mind:

- A good way to promote the program is to ask "are you looking for work" and if the answer is yes we should encourage the FNS recipient to participate in the E&T program.
- The DSS-2624 is a tool for DSS to communicate with ESC and the NCESC-2625 is a tool for ESC to communicate with DSS. Alternate tools can be used to increase efficiency like emails and spreadsheets. Contact your state level representatives for more information.

- By working together we can make a positive difference in the life of our participants, their families, and our communities.

Sincerely,



Dean Simpson
Chief, Economic & Family Services

Sincerely,



Diane G. Smith,
Manager, Applicant Services

EFS-FNSEP-40-2010