



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

• 325 North Salisbury Street •

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Courier # 56-20-25 Fax 919-733-0645

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

April 10, 2006

RE: North Carolina Food Stamp Conference

Dear County Director of Social Services:

ATTENTION: Food Stamp Supervisors

The Economic Services Section and the Food Stamp Conference Planning Committee cordially invite you and your staff to attend the North Carolina Food Stamp Conference. The conference theme is Food Assistance Recipe for Success and the main areas of focus are payment accuracy, customer service, nutrition education and program outreach.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons on May 17-19, 2006. The conference will begin on Wednesday, May 17th, at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn on Friday, May 19th, at 11:00 a.m. The Sheraton Four Seasons/Joseph S. Koury Convention Center is located at 3121 High Point Road, Greensboro, North Carolina. Directions are attached.

There are two methods for making room reservations. The two methods are as follows:

Method #1: Your County requests one hotel room paid by the state - The North Carolina Division of Social Services will pay the hotel bill for one room per county for two nights. Complete the attached Hotel Reservations Request and fax or email to our office by April 19, 2006. Please note that the State will pay for the room and taxes only. The State will not pay for incidentals such as telephone calls, in-room movies, and room service. Therefore, it will be necessary for the primary attendee to present a credit card at check-in to cover incidentals.

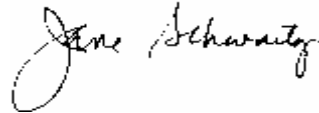
Method #2: Your County requests one hotel room paid by the State plus one or more additional rooms reserved and paid by the county - The North Carolina Division of Social Services will pay the hotel bill for one room per county for two nights. Complete the attached Hotel Reservations Request and fax or email to our office by April 19, 2006. Call the hotel directly to reserve additional rooms. The telephone number is 336-292-9161. Please refer to the North Carolina Food Stamp Conference when making reservations to ensure receipt of the reduced room rate. The conference rate for additional rooms is \$115.00 (plus 13% sales tax) per night for one to four persons. All reservations must be guaranteed with a one night deposit by credit card. The reservation deadline is April 24, 2006.

Please note that the conference begins at 1:00 p.m. and hotel rooms will probably not be available until after 3:00 p.m. Please plan accordingly so this will not create any problems for you prior to the opening session.

Attached you will find an updated agenda, a hotel reservation request form, a participant registration form, a memo regarding door prizes, and directions to the hotel. Please note that lunch will be provided for all attendees on Thursday, May 18, 2006 and breakfast will be provided on Friday, May 19, 2006. It is very important that we receive an accurate count of those who will be attending the luncheon and the breakfast. Please assist us with this effort so we can plan as accurately as possible.

We are looking forward to this conference, and we are pleased that 97 of 100 counties plan to participate. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rhonda McLamb or Terry Carlin at (919) 733-7831.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Schwartz". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jane Schwartz, Chief
Economic Services Section

JS/rm
Attachments
FAEP-04-2006