



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

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Pheon E. Beal, Director
(919) 733-3055

December 5, 2003

**Re: Notification of January 2004
Mass Change**

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food Stamp Supervisors

Food Stamp recipients will receive notification in December 2003 of the upcoming Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) mass change that is effective January 1, 2004. This change will increase the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits by 2.1%. The Medicare Part B premium will increase to \$66.60. Laser-printed notices will be mailed to all Food Stamp recipients during the month of December. A copy of the notice is attached.

If you have any questions concerning this information, please feel free to contact your Food Assistance and Energy Programs Representative or Alice Smith at 919-733-7831.

Sincerely,

Jane Schwartz, Chief
Economic Services

Ams
Attachment
FAEP-05-2003