



## 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

July 1, 2005

**Re:** Notice to Individuals Converting to  
Simplified Nutritional Assistance  
Program (SNAP)

Dear County Director of Social Services:

**Attention:** Food Stamp Supervisors

North Carolina's Simplified Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) Demonstration Project will begin August 1, 2005. The first phase of this project is automatically converting approximately 10,000 active Food Stamp cases to SNAP. These cases meet all SNAP eligibility criteria. The benefit levels for SNAP cases are \$38 and \$62. The benefit levels are based on current household shelter expenses. Conversion cases with monthly shelter expenses of \$149 or less will receive \$38 in benefits and conversion cases with monthly shelter expenses of \$150 or more will receive \$62 in benefits. Cases eligible for conversion will receive the new allotment amount effective August 2005. Please note that we will only convert cases to SNAP if the benefit level will increase or remain the same.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) approval of the SNAP Demonstration Project requires North Carolina to notify individuals that their current cases will be converted to SNAP prior to the actual conversion process. These individuals must be given the opportunity to opt out of SNAP.

Attached is a copy of the notice that will be mailed to households on July 5, 2005 as well as a fax cover sheet to submit to our office should an individual choose to opt out of SNAP. Please encourage individuals who wish to opt out of SNAP that participation in SNAP requires less paperwork than the Regular Food Stamp Program and lifts the burden of reporting changes. However, if an individual chooses to opt out of SNAP, please fax or email the completed attached form to our office no later than July 20, 2005. Eligible cases will convert to SNAP on August 1, 2005.

If you have any questions, please contact your Food Assistance and Energy Programs Representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Schwartz".

Jane Schwartz, Chief  
Economic Services Section

JS:dl  
**FAEP-13-2005**  
Attachments