



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

325 N. Salisbury Street

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

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

October 25, 2004

Re: H&R Block Food Stamp Outreach Initiative

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food Stamp Supervisors

H&R Block and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) are collaborating with states to educate individuals about the Food Stamp Program. As we all know, many households are potentially eligible for food stamp benefits, but often fail to apply because they don't know how or where to apply, or even if they may be eligible. H&R Block plans to launch this exciting new campaign in North Carolina in January 2005.

H&R Block will make available Food Stamp Applications (DSS-8207) in their offices beginning January 2005. They will provide basic information and instructions concerning the application process, the toll-free CARELINE number, as well as where to find the DSS-8207 on the internet. Households who choose to apply for Food Stamp benefits will be responsible for completing the DSS-8207 and submitting the application in person, by an authorized representative, fax, or by mail to their local DSS agency. Upon receipt, follow normal application processing procedures outlined in Food Stamp Manual Section 300, Applications.

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

Sincerely,

Jane Schwartz, Chief
Economic Services Section

JS/dl
FAEP-16-2004