



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

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

October 25, 2004

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food Stamp Supervisors

The Division of Social Services has contracted with the Jordan Institute for Families at UNC-Chapel Hill to develop a website that provides information on the Food Stamp Program. A similar website was developed for the Work First Program.

Currently, the site provides information on the food stamp caseload and the rate at which households leave the program. Caseload information includes the number of households and individuals participating in the Food Stamp Program, the number of employment and training (E&T) participants, the number of Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS), the average food stamp allotment, and the average household size. The information covers the period from June 1998 to the present. The data will be updated each month.

Information that is included on the website may be helpful in completing required reports or used to share information about the Food Stamp Program with your county commissioners and DSS Boards. The site can also be used to share information with the media.

The site will be expanded in early 2005 to include information on the rate at which households return to the program after leaving, the wages households receive after leaving food stamps, as well as a range of information on household characteristics. This information will be presented in charts and graphs.

You may access the website by pointing your browser to: <http://ssw.unc.edu/foodstamps/>

Please direct any questions or comments about the website to David Prince, Employment and Training Coordinator at 919-733-4570.

Sincerely,

Jane Schwartz, Chief
Economic Services Section

FAEP-17-2004