

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

YVONNE COPELAND • Director, Division of Child and Family Well Being

Date: December 17, 2024

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

- Hurricane Helene Disaster-SNAP (D-SNAP) Funding for County Departments of Subject: Social Services
- **Priority**: Information and Action Required

Hurricane Helene devastated much of western North Carolina in late September 2024. In response to the hurricane, NCDHHS received approval to implement D-SNAP in 25 western NC counties in October and November 2024. County department of social services (DSS) staff played a critical role in administering D-SNAP in-person in western NC as well as staffing a new D-SNAP call center that NCDHHS stood up to make D-SNAP accessible to western NC residents when over 600 roads were destroyed or impassable.

NCDHHS advocated with the General Assembly for matching state funding to support D-SNAP administrative costs at both state, via the NCDHHS Division of Child and Family Well-Being, and county levels. On October 24, 2024, the General Assembly authorized Senate Bill 743, which provided \$10M for state and county D-SNAP costs.

NC Division of Social Services provided the following guidance and training regarding D-SNAP coding and costing:

- On October 11, 2024, Richard Stegenga, DSS Business Operations Director sent listserv guidance to DSS Directors and Fiscal Officers detailing D-SNAP and Shelter coding, costing and LBL support.
- On October 23, 2024, DSS Business Operations and LBL team provided fiscal refresher training for counties.
- On October 24, 2024, Richard Stegenga, DSS Business Operations Director re-sent county DSS Directors and Fiscal Officers an updated version of D-SNAP and Shelter coding guidance and Q&A documents from the October 23 fiscal training per county request.

Through the October service month reporting cycle, submitted 11/15/24, 81 counties coded staff time to D-SNAP, totaling over \$3.1 million in costs. See attachment 1 for those details. As D-SNAP is funded 50% federal/50% non-federal, just like regular FNS, counties have already NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING

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received federal share reimbursement through October services reported. Next, NCDHHS will action replacement of the 50% county match with state funds and make payment of those to counties. In order to receive reimbursement for the non-federal share via funding authorized by the General Assembly, counties must ensure they have coded these activities to the D-SNAP codes (Parts I and II).

Non-personnel (Part II) purchases made to support D-SNAP operations (including the D-SNAP virtual call center), such as headsets, tents, water, port-a-potties, etc. can be direct charged to receive the same 100% reimbursement. However, if claimed to code 411 – IM DSNAP, these items can only be used by the FNS program in the future. If a county wishes to use these items across entire agency use, they should be charged to Part II codes 310 or 804, which will receive cost-allocated reimbursement.

Any D-SNAP costs not yet submitted in either the October or November service month claims, or those in need of correction, need to be submitted in the December 2024 services 1571 cycle. Those deadlines are January 6, 2025 for daysheet upload and January 15, 2025 for 1571 upload.

NCDHHS will provide updates on when we anticipate funding for the non-federal share of D-SNAP expenses will be reimbursed to counties.

Note that staff time spent working in shelters should NOT be coded to D-SNAP. Staff time spent working in shelters should be submitted to local Emergency Management for County-Run shelters and State Emergency Management for State-Run shelters.

Please reach out to your DSS Local Business Liaison for any fiscal related questions you may have

Sincerely,

Madhu Vulimini

Madhu Vulimiri, Deputy Director Division of Child and Family Well-Being

Ruhal Styrup

Richard Stegenga, Director, Business Operations Division of Social Services

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ATTACHMENT 1. Counties that have coded staff time to D-SNAP as of 12/9/2024.

Alamance
Alexander
Alleghany
Anson
Ashe
Avery
Beaufort
Bertie
Bladen
Brunswick
Buncombe
Burke
Cabarrus
Caldwell
Camden
Carteret
Catawba
Chatham
Cherokee
Chowan
Clay
Cleveland
Columbus
Craven
Cumberland
Currituck
Dare
Davidson
Davie
Duplin
Durham
Forsyth
Franklin
Gaston

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Gates
Granville
Greene
Guilford
Halifax
Harnett
Haywood
Henderson
Hoke
Jackson
Johnston
Lee
Lincoln
Macon
Madison
Martin
McDowell
Mitchell
Montgomery
Moore
New Hanover
Northampton
Onslow
Orange
Pasquotank
Pender
Pitt
Polk
Randolph
Robeson
Rockingham
Rowan
Rutherford
Sampson
Stokes

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Surry
Transylvania
Union
Vance
Wake
Washington
Watauga
Wayne
Wilkes
Wilson
Yadkin
Yancey

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