March 18, 2008

Re: Economic Stimulus Act of 2008

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 will provide rebates to many low and middle-income households. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently provided instructions regarding the rebates and Food and Nutrition Services eligibility. The purpose of this letter is to provide instructions for budgeting the rebates.

Exclude Economic Stimulus Act rebates from income in determining eligibility and allotments for households applying and/or receiving Food and Nutrition Services. Exclude rebates as a resource for the month of receipt and the next two (2) months. Exclude the rebate for any household that receives and deposits it into an account (with or without other funds) for the three (3) month period. Exclude the rebate for the three (3) month period if the rebate is held as cash. Apply this policy to all applicant households as well as any household that reports a change in resource level. Take action to terminate benefits in accordance with ongoing policy, if the household indicates that it has exceeded its resource limit due to the rebate amount at the end of the three (3) month period.

If you have any questions, please contact your Food and Nutrition Services Representative.

Sincerely,

Dean Simpson, Chief
Economic Services Section

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FNSEP-03-2008