

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: May 3, 2010

SUBJECT: Request to Establish Two (2) Food & Nutrition Income Maintenance Caseworker Project Positions

ATTACHMENTS: *March 17, 2010 Letter from NC Department of Health and Human Services/ Division of Social Services*

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Through September 2011, federal funding through the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2010 in the amount of **\$89,003** will be available to the Henderson County Department of Social Services as contingency funding for the costs associated with administration of the Food and Nutrition Services Program. The available funding is 100% federal and requires no county match. It is the recommendation of the DSS Board and Director that the available funding be utilized to increase staff capacity by adding two (2) Income Maintenance Caseworker II project positions in the Food & Nutrition Program area. The request to increase staff capacity is supported by:

1. **Continued increase of Henderson County resident participation in the program:**
 - 31% increase from month of January 2009 to month of January 2010 (2419 additional county residents; from 7715 to 10,134 monthly)
 - 69% increase from month of January 2008 to month of January 2010 (4146 additional county residents; from 5988 to 10,134 monthly)
2. **Implementation of the following Food & Nutrition Program expansions effective July 1, 2010 which will increase service demand:**
 - Poverty level incomes will increase from 130% to 200% of the federal poverty income level
 - Availability of automated referrals by community non-profit and medical providers via ePASS (an on-line pre-screening tool for Food & Nutrition and Medicaid)

BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

Establishment of two (2) Income Maintenance Caseworker II project positions assigned to the Food & Nutrition Program utilizing 100% federal funding and requiring no county funding match. Effective date of the positions will be July 1, 2010.

Suggested Motion:

I move establishment of two (2) Income Maintenance Caseworker II project positions assigned to the Food & Nutrition Program utilizing 100% federal funding, requiring no county funding match, to address DSS staff capacity/level of service demands, with the understanding that DSS must return to request county funding should these federal funds be eliminated and/or after the project period has expired on June 30, 2011.



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

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

March 17, 2010

RE: Contingency Administrative Funding for Food and Nutrition Services

Dear County Director of Social Services:

On December 19, 2009, the President signed into law the Department of Defense (DoD) Appropriations Act of 2010, which appropriated contingency funding to states for the costs associated with administering the Food and Nutrition Services Program. These additional funds are in no way associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. These are 100 percent federal funds and do not require a county match. The contingency funds are intended to help address the growing strain on existing resources related to the administration of the Food and Nutrition Services Program. These funds are intended to supplement current county funds for Food and Nutrition Services. An example of supplementing the FNS Program would be the hiring of additional FNS staff.

Attached is the allocation for each county plus Swain and Jackson Indian Tribe. Each county received a base allocation of \$35,000 and then the balance was distributed to counties based on current caseload numbers. The funds made available under this initial allocation will be available for April expenditures and must be obligated by September 30, 2010. Any funds not obligated at the end of federal fiscal year 2010 will be recovered by USDA and reallocated to all states for federal fiscal year 2011. Obligated funds will be available for states to spend until September 30, 2011. Each state must submit a plan and a budget to USDA indicating how the funds will be obligated and spent during FFY 2010 and FFY 2011. Therefore each county plus the two tribes must submit a plan by April 5, 2010 to the Division outlining how their FNS administrative fund allocation will be obligated and spent. The plans must include how these funds will be obligated as well as a detailed budget and timeline for the spending of these funds. In planning for the spending of the funds, counties should keep in mind that proposed changes in Food and Nutrition Services Categorical Eligibility Policy, which will be effective by July 1, 2010, will increase Food and Nutrition Services caseloads. The Division will review each plan to ensure that funds are being used to

help counties manage the current increase in FNS caseloads and the projected increase due to upcoming changes in policy.

Completed plans are to be emailed to dean.simpson@dhhs.nc.gov or faxed to (919) 334-1266, Attention Dean Simpson by close of business on April 5, 2010. Each county will receive a response within 48 hours after their plan is submitted indicating approval or if follow-up information is needed.

The Division will monitor how the Contingency funds are spent and provide feedback and support to county DSS agencies. These funds must be tracked separately from the regular FNS program. Counties will receive a separate allocation and funding authorization for the contingency funds from the DSS Budget Office. The DHHS Controller's Office will also issue a separate letter providing counties with reporting instructions for these funds.

If you have questions please call me at (919) 334-1234 or contact your Local Business Liaison.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dean Simpson".

Dean Simpson, Chief
Economic and Family Services

DS:dl
Attachment
EFS-FNSEP-09-2010

DSS SNAP Defense Bill Allocation 2010

	\$35,000 base
Amount Available to Counties:	\$11,256,615
Total Base (35,000/county):	\$3,570,000
Amount to Allocate after Deducting Base:	\$7,686,615

County	Allocation
Alamance	\$151,105
Alexander	\$63,286
Alleghany	\$43,748
Anson	\$71,601
Ashe	\$55,957
Avery	\$47,291
Beaufort	\$81,661
Bertie	\$67,775
Bladen	\$80,390
Brunswick	\$104,106
Buncombe	\$221,549
Burke	\$109,054
Cabarrus	\$148,035
Caldwell	\$119,479
Camden	\$39,868
Carteret	\$81,120
Caswell	\$62,732
Catawba	\$181,459
Chatham	\$61,947
Cherokee	\$57,201
Chowan	\$53,821
Clay	\$45,709
Cleveland	\$155,350
Columbus	\$103,903
Craven	\$110,839
Cumberland	\$356,164
Currituck	\$45,803
Dare	\$48,900
Davidson	\$181,202
Davie	\$58,608
Duplin	\$80,755
Durham	\$236,314
Edgecombe	\$126,348
Forsyth	\$286,111
Franklin	\$84,216
Gaston	\$248,996
Gates	\$43,951
Graham	\$43,045
Granville	\$74,846
Greene	\$58,107
Guilford	\$460,599
Halifax	\$134,028
Harnett	\$128,430
Haywood	\$87,204

Henderson	\$89,003
Hertford	\$70,979
Hoke	\$80,376
Hyde	\$41,111
Iredell	\$115,193
Jackson	\$59,446
Johnston	\$159,325
Jones	\$46,236
Lee	\$85,163
Lenoir	\$112,353
Lincoln	\$91,653
Macon	\$62,515
Madison	\$54,024
Martin	\$64,679
McDowell	\$75,441
Mecklenburg	\$798,083
Mitchell	\$48,088
Montgomery	\$63,462
Moore	\$83,770
Nash	\$121,696
New Hanover	\$168,790
Northampton	\$71,696
Onslow	\$115,585
Orange	\$93,573
Pamlico	\$45,181
Pasquotank	\$72,953
Pender	\$76,577
Perquimans	\$49,048
Person	\$73,481
Pitt	\$186,624
Polk	\$46,966
Randolph	\$149,617
Richmond	\$98,751
Robeson	\$236,963
Rockingham	\$120,196
Rowan	\$148,346
Rutherford	\$103,132
Sampson	\$101,807
Scotland	\$91,950
Stanly	\$82,405
Stokes	\$65,206
Surry	\$104,944
Swain	\$49,251
Transylvania	\$59,135
Tyrrell	\$40,652
Union	\$133,446
Vance	\$113,557
Wake	\$405,474
Warren	\$62,366
Washington	\$52,942
Watauga	\$52,726
Wayne	\$148,279

Wilkes	\$103,213
Wilson	\$117,775
Yadkin	\$62,813
Yancey	\$55,985
Jackson Indian	\$35,000
Swqi Indian	\$35,000
TOTAL	\$11,256,614