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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 91 INF-52

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services

DIVISION: Income
 Maintenance

DATE: September 26, 1991

SUBJECT: New Release: SSI Handbook for Children

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Income Maintenance Staff
 Medical Assistance Staff
 Directors of Services
 DCAP Coordinators
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Abe Anolik at 1-800-342-3715, extension 4-7218

ATTACHMENTS: Three copies of the SSI Handbook for Children - not
 available on-line

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
91 ADM-35					90 LCM-133 90 LCM-150 91 LCM-5 91 LCM-119

The purpose of this release is twofold:

1. inform social services districts of the availability of a new informational booklet - SSI Handbook for Children; and
2. to provide three copies of this Handbook to districts.

The SSI Handbook is designed to provide both professionals and lay persons with information that will enable them to assist children in obtaining SSI.

As districts were informed in several local commissioner memoranda and 91 ADM-35, a recent decision in a federal court case, Zebley v. Sullivan, has resulted in changes to the definition of disability for children in the SSI Program. These changes make it far easier for children to qualify for SSI.

It is advantageous for social services districts to have current clients become SSI eligible. It is especially worthwhile to pursue SSI for non-IV-E eligible children in foster care and for all Home Relief/PG-ADC recipients.

It is also highly advantageous for disabled children living with their families, or foster children being discharged home, to become eligible for SSI. Typically, when a disabled child living in an ADC household begins to receive SSI, the entire family will have approximately \$300 more cash in the household each month. While this extra income is counted for food stamp purposes, the family still has considerably more income when the child receives SSI. In addition, because the child is now considered disabled, the household can qualify for a food stamp uncapped shelter deduction and/or medical deductions.

Additional copies can be requested by writing to:

NYS Department of Social Services
Office of Disability Determination
P.O. Box 1993
Albany, NY 12201

Attention: SSI Handbook

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance