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## Informational Letter

### Section 1

<b>Transmittal:</b>	01 INF 15
<b>To:</b>	Local District Commissioners
<b>Issuing Division/Office:</b>	Temporary Assistance
<b>Date:</b>	August 14, 2001
<b>Subject:</b>	Revised SSI Benefits Level Chart
<b>Suggested Distribution:</b>	TA, FS, MA Directors; CAP, WMS, Staff Development Coordinators
<b>Contact Person(s):</b>	TA Team Rep @ 1(800) 343-8859: Central Team (TA) 4-9344; Eastern Team (FS) 3-1469; Western Team (HEAP, SSI & IAR) 3-0332.; or the Metro Team @ (212) 383-1655
<b>Attachments:</b>	SSI Benefits Level Chart
<b>Attachment Available On – Line:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Filing References

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
					GIS 01TA/DC021 GIS 01TA/DC025 GIS 01TA/DC026 ABEL Transmittal 01-3

### Section 2

#### I. Purpose:

The purpose of this INF is to provide local district staff with a corrected and updated version of the SSI Benefit Levels Chart. The chart is a resource tool, which assists local workers who perform necessary case processing and maintenance related to SSI clients. This chart replaces a previously issued chart, which was an attachment to GIS 00TA/DC021.

## **II. Background:**

The Social Security Administration (SSA) made an error in calculating the cost of living adjustment (COLA) for January 1999. This revised chart takes into account the corrected COLA increases, which are being implemented in August by SSA. Effective August 1, 2001, SSI recipients will be receiving SSI benefits based on the new amounts in the revised SSI Benefits Level Chart.

Previous versions of the SSI Benefits Level chart were only available in DSSP/InfoOffice software, which often made sharing the chart electronically difficult. This revised chart was developed in Microsoft Word to alleviate the sharing and distribution problem.

## **III. Program Implications**

No specific action is warranted by the issuance of the revised Benefits Level Chart. It is simply a tool to assist local district staff.

Please refer to the follow releases:

- ❑ 01TA/DC025 “Temporary Assistance Budgeting; Implications of Federal SSI/SSA Rate Miscalculation Adjustment”, which informed districts of the impact of SSA actions on temporary assistance programs.
- ❑ 01TA/DC021 “Exclusion of Certain Retroactive SSI Payments as Lump Sums for Food Stamps”, for instructions on handling the increased SSI benefits as it pertains to the food stamp program.
- ❑ 01TA/DC026 “Interim Assistance Recovery and Misdirected Retroactive SSA Benefits”, which informed districts when the retroactive SSI benefits will be issued and how to handle misdirected benefits.
- ❑ Abel Transmittal 01-3 “ SSA Cola Error” addressed the increased shelter amounts which were put into place effective August 1, 2001.

### **Issued By**

**Name: Patricia A. Stevens**

**Title: Deputy Commissioner**

**Division/Office: Division of Temporary Assistance**