Date:

Case No:

**District Contact No:** 

You are receiving this notice because you or someone in your household has been determined to be an Able-Bodied Adult without Dependents (ABAWD). Individuals who are determined to be an ABAWD must meet ABAWD work requirements to maintain SNAP benefits for more than three (3) months in a 36 month period.

## What is an ABAWD required to do?

To maintain eligibility for SNAP benefits for more than three (3) months in the 36 month period starting January 1, 2016, the ABAWD must complete and document one of the following each month:

- Work (including "in-kind" work and volunteer work) for at least 80 hours per month;
- Participate in a qualifying work/training program approved by the social services district for at least 80 hours per month;
- Comply with a Work Experience Program (WEP) assignment for the number of hours equal to your SNAP grant divided by the higher of the federal or State minimum wage;
- Participate in a program under the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act or Trade Act which may include job search, job readiness, occupational skills training and education activities for at least 80 hours per month; or
- Participate in a combination of work or qualifying work programs for at least 80 hours per month.

Failure to comply with these requirements <u>without good cause</u> may result in the loss of SNAP benefits. If the ABAWD is meeting any of the requirements listed above, the individual should contact the social services district at the District Contact Number provided above. If the ABAWD is not participating in work or qualifying activities and he/she wants to continue to receive SNAP beyond the three-month time limit, he/she should contact the social services district at the District Contact Number provided above to discuss what work or work programs may be available to permit the ABAWD to meet the work requirement.

In addition, the ABAWD must provide documentation of participation in unpaid work activities each month and report to the social services district within 10 days after the end of the month if his/her work hours go below 80 hours.

If an ABAWD fails to meet the work requirements and loses eligibility for SNAP, he/she <u>may</u> be able to receive SNAP again, if otherwise eligible, and should contact the social services district to discuss what he/she needs to do to regain SNAP eligibility.

## Do you think the adults in your SNAP household are exempt from ABAWD requirements?

Please contact the social services district through the District Contact Number provided above immediately if you believe that everyone in your SNAP household should be exempt from these requirements because each adult individual meets one or more of the conditions listed below:

- A person under 18 years of age, or 50 years of age or older
- An adult in a SNAP household with a child under 18 years of age
- A caretaker of an incapacitated person
- A pregnant woman
- Physically or mentally unable to work 80 hours a month
- Participating in a drug/alcohol treatment or rehabilitation program and deemed unable to work
- A recipient or pending receipt of Unemployment Insurance Benefits (UIB)
- A student enrolled in any recognized school, job skills training, or institution of higher education at least half-time and meeting the student eligibility criteria to receive SNAP
- An applicant for SNAP benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) jointly or in receipt of SSI
- Employed or self-employed and working at least 30 hours per week or receiving weekly earnings at least equal to the federal minimum wage times 30 (currently \$217.50 per week)

Federal rules permit the work requirement for ABAWDs to not apply to individuals living in certain areas with historically high unemployment. If you reside in one of these areas as determined by the federal government, you will not be subject to ABAWD work requirements.