



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

Family Investment Administration
ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: 03-25

Effective Date: January 1, 2003

Issuance Date: November 21, 2002

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT
FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

FROM: CHARLES E. HENRY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: INCREASE IN THE FOOD STAMP TELEPHONE ALLOWANCE

PROGRAM AFFECTED: FOOD STAMPS

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS

SUMMARY:

Every year we review the shelter allowances to determine if they should increase, decrease or stay the same. Based on the most recent Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Baltimore/ Washington area, the standard and limited utility allowances will stay the same. The basic telephone allowance will increase. This AT describes the increase in the basic telephone allowance.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Effective **January 1, 2003** the telephone allowance will increase from \$21 to **\$26 per month**. CARES supports the increased basic telephone allowance.

Note: There is no increase in the SUA (\$224) or LUA (\$135).

INQUIRIES:

Please refer Food Stamp policy questions to Marilyn Lorenzo at 410-767-7333 or Kay Finegan at 410-767-7939.

cc: FIA Management Staff
Constituent Services
DHR Help Desk
RESI