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