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

FROM: KEVIN MAHON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA
JOSEPH MILLSTONE, DIRECTOR, MCPA/DHMH

RE: INCOME EXCLUSION

PROGRAMS AFFECTED: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE,
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND FOOD STAMPS

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF POLICY AND RESEARCH

BACKGROUND

Public Law 104-204, dated September 26, 1996, requires that the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs pay allowances to children of Vietnam veterans who are born with spina bifida. The law provides for monthly allowances, based on the degree of disability suffered by the child. The allowance amounts range from $200 per month for the lowest level of disability prescribed, to $700 for the intermediate level, and $1,200 for the highest level. The effective date of these allowances is October 1, 1997.

ACTION REQUIRED

Disregard allowances paid to children of Vietnam veterans who are born with spina bifida from income and resource consideration when determining eligibility or benefit levels for Temporary Cash Assistance, Medical Assistance and Food Stamps. Verification/documentation is required when determining a household's eligibility for this exclusion.
AIMS PROCEDURES

No change in case processing is required. Exclude this income when calculating the household income.

CLEARLY DOCUMENT/NARRATE ACTION TAKEN ON THE CASE

CARES PROCEDURES

Place the allowance to children of Vietnam Veterans with spina bifida on the child’s “UNINC” screen (unearned income screen), and code this allowance as “ON” (Other non-countable income) under the source column. This will disregard the allowance for Temporary Cash Assistance, Medical Assistance and Food Stamps.

CLEARLY DOCUMENT/NARRATE THE TYPE OF INCOME TO EXPLAIN THE "ON" CODE.

Please direct inquiries to Steve Sturgill at (410) 767-7733.

cc:     DHR Executive Staff  
       FIA Management Staff  
       DHMH Management Staff   
       Constituent Services     
       Help Desk               
       CARES Testing Facility