



Department of Human Resources
311 West Saratoga Street
Baltimore MD 21201

Family Investment Administration
ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: #10-26

Effective Date: Upon Receipt

Issuance Date: April 1, 2010

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

FROM: KEVIN M. MCGUIRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**RE: CODING WORKS BECAUSE OF FEBRUARY'S INCLEMENT
WEATHER**

PROGRAM AFFECTED: TEMPORARY CASH ASSISTANCE

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY:

In February, the State had record levels of snow that curtailed many services. All State services except for 24/7 services were closed for two days and included liberal leave for four other days. Garrett and Allegany Counties had an additional day of liberal leave because of snow.

Customers in work activities must participate for a specific number of hours per month to be countable in the Federal Work Participation Rate (WPR). The snow in February caused problems with the WPR because there was no time to plan.

The Federal, Administration for Children and Families (ACF) provided states with policy guidance in TANF-ACF-PI-2007-08 stating they (ACF) did not have the authority to waive Federal law for TANF eligibility. They gave the same information to Family Investment staff this year because of the snow.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Work participation hours in February may include up to 16 hrs of excused absence for any customer not able to participate in scheduled activities because of weather related closings. Customers not able to participate for more than 16 hours because of weather related closings may be allowed good cause. Do not count hours beyond the 16 excused hours in the month unless the customer actually participated.

Reminder: Service reduction days also close State services. Since service reduction days are known in advance, customers can sometimes make up the hours needed or excused absence can be allowed. The next service reduction day is Friday, May 28.

ACTION DUE: Upon receipt

INQUIRIES: Please direct all TCA inquiries to Marilyn Lorenzo at 410-767-7333 or mlorenzo@dhr.state.md.us or Gretchen Simpson at 410-767-7937 or gsimpson@dhr.state.md.us.

cc: DHR Executive Staff
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