



Department of Human Resources  
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**FIA INFORMATION MEMO**

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

**FROM: KEVIN MAHON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FIA  
DENESE MAKER, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CSA**

**RE: TEMHA POLICY UPDATE**

**PROGRAMS AFFECTED: FOOD STAMP AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**ORIGINATING OFFICE: OPA/ DIVISION OF PROGRAM POLICY AND  
REGULATION**

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Transitional Emergency, Medical, and Housing Assistance (TEMHA) was implemented effective July 1, 1995, and updated to TEMHA II in January 1996. Subsequent to TEMHA II, some additional policies have been added for clarification.

**ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS AFTER FIRST 12 MONTHS:**

**A. DISABILITY DETERMINATION FROM SRT:**

Federal Medical Assistance regulations state that once a customer is found disabled by the SRT and has been certified for medical assistance for twelve months, the person is disabled until the SRT finds the customer not disabled. The same policy applies to TEMHA customers determined disabled by SRT. If the customer has supplied the requested new medical documentation at redetermination, the customer is to receive benefits until the SRT determines the customer is no longer disabled.

**B. SRT FINDING OF NOT DISABLED:**

If the SRT concludes that the customer is not medically disabled under the federal SSI standards, customers who meet other TEMHA eligibility may continue to receive TEMHA beyond the initial twelve months if:

- the customer is pursuing SSI eligibility, and

- the Disability Entitlement and Advocacy Program (DEAP) accepts the referral and continues to pursue the case.

A customer who has been determined not disabled by the State Review Team and for whom DEAP is not pursuing the case, may not receive more than 12 months of TEMHA benefits in a 36 month time period.

### **TREATMENT PROGRAM CLARIFICATION**

"Treatment program" means an inpatient or outpatient substance abuse treatment program certified by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), or a program given temporary approval by DHMH during a transitional period expiring October 1, 1996.

The eligible individual may not be the payee if the medical diagnosis identifies a current medical condition of alcoholism or drug addiction and the recipient is not actively participating in a treatment program or is in remission from active substance abuse. If the customer is actively participating in a treatment program, he can be his own payee.

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cc: FIA Management Staff  
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CTF

KM/ymp