



Pasquotank County

Department of Social Services

709 Roanoke Ave.

Elizabeth City, NC 27909

(252) 338 -2126

Melissa Stokely

DSS Director

Jeff Dixon

DSS Board Chairman

September 21, 2009

This letter is to inform Elizabeth City and Pasquotank community partners and businesses of an important change to the State of North Carolina's policy regarding Work First Cash Assistance (formerly known as AFDC).

As of November 1, 2009, the families that are actively participating in the Work First Program will no longer receive their Work First Benefit checks on the first of the month. A new plan has been implemented to reflect real life work situations. A participant in the Work First Benefit program must accomplish the goals and requirements agreed upon, and provide verification that these goals have been completed. When the verification of completion has been received by the Department of Social Services, the family will then have their cash benefit released. As you can see, this is the same principal that most of our workforce experiences; you receive your wages after your work.

Our community partners such as landlords, utility companies, rental agencies, medical providers, local businesses, employers and the faith based organizations may want to keep in mind this transition period and work with these families to the best of their abilities. Various families may have rent, utilities, etc. coming due upon the first of the month and may now need more time, at least for a few months, to reorganize and budget their finances to meet their monthly obligations.

If you have any questions or would like more information regarding this change in state policy, please feel free to contact:

The Pasquotank County Department of Social Services

252-338-2126, ext. 110 or ext. 155