

**DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. ECONOMIC SERVICES 14-2005, Special
State CIP Funds (December 12, 2005)
(Crisis Intervention Program)**

TO: County Directors of Social Services

ATTENTION: CIP Supervisors

DATE: December 12, 2005

SUBJECT: Special State CIP Funds

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Governor Michael F. Easley announced on November 16, 2005, a plan to make available nearly \$10 million in additional funding to help low income North Carolinians with the high heating costs expected this winter. This includes \$3.1 million for weatherization assistance programs, and \$3.4 in special state Crisis Intervention Program (CIP) funds. Approval was granted by the Council of State on December 6, 2005. Funding Authorizations have been generated and each county's allocation will be loaded to the CIP automated system in the "Disaster" segment of the system. You will be notified via terminal message when the system is loaded.

In addition, utility companies that offer charitable contribution programs sponsored by customers and/or employees have also pledged \$3.4 million in crisis assistance. Included are Progress Energy, Duke Energy, Piedmont Natural Gas, Public Service of NC, North Carolina Power and others. Assistance is made available at the discretion of the providers through programs such as Progress Energy's Energy Neighbor, Piedmont Natural Gas Share the Warmth, and crisis funds administered through various local crisis ministries agencies.

The purpose of this letter is to provide instructions regarding use of the special state CIP funds.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

- A.** Special CIP funds will be loaded in the Disaster segment of the CIP automated system for tracking purposes. Once all regular CIP funds are exhausted, click on the Disaster button on the application page to key each application, approved or denied, as long as special state CIP is available.
- B.** The eligibility criteria and annual \$300 limit for assisting a household through CIP remain unchanged. If a household has already received the

maximum help through CIP for the current year, explore other community resources to assist the household with a heating crisis.

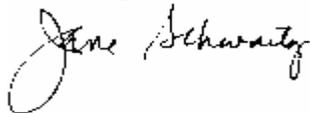
- C. Counties have until May 31, 2006, to authorize the special CIP funds. Any remaining unspent funds will revert to the state.
- D. A new Application Code for reporting use of the special state CIP on Part 2 of the DSS-1571 will be provided in early January 2006.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

Use the special state CIP funds once regular CIP is exhausted.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact your Food Assistance and Energy Programs Representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Schwartz".

Jane Schwartz, Chief
Economic Services Section