DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES EFS_FNS_AL-10-2016 Hurricane Matthew 2016, Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss

(October 19, 2016)

(Food and Nutrition Services)

TO: County Directors of Social Services

ATTENTION: Food and Nutrition Services Managers and

Supervisors

DATE: October 19, 2016

SUBJECT: Additional Counties Added to the Hurricane

Matthew Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss

Waiver

EFFECTIVE: October 19, 2016

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On October 8, 2016, Hurricane Matthew brought severe flooding and power outages to many counties in eastern and central North Carolina. Many families and individuals were directly impacted by Hurricane Matthew which forced them to temporarily relocate to shelters, with family members, and others within surrounding and bordering counties. Over the past week, several county Departments of Social Services offices have been closed and continue to be closed for indefinite periods of time. As a result, Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) recipients are unable to report food loss within the 10-day timeframe.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved a waiver for Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss for Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) recipients in Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Harnett, Hoke, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Nash, Pender, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Wayne, and Wilson County. This waiver allows any current FNS recipient in these counties to report a loss of food beyond the 10-day timeframe and receive replacement benefits if eligible. On October 19, 2016 the following counties were added to the Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss for Food and Nutrition Services Waiver Craven, Martin, Tyrrell and Washington.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

The waiver for Timely Household Reporting of Food Loss allows recipients to report food loss and request replacement benefits until October 28, 2016. A household can report the

loss to any county DSS agency. Refer to the DSS Disaster Q&As for further information and instructions regarding replacements.

https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dss/county/Disaster%20Issues.htm

Submit any questions regarding this information to the DHHS Operational Support Team (OST) at ost.policy.questions@dhhs.nc.gov. To ensure these questions receive priority response, please include "Disaster" as the subject line when submitting.

Sincerely,

David Locklear, Chief

Economic and Family Services

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