



MEDIA ADVISORY

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 18, 2009

CONTACT:
MICHELLE MOWERY JOHNSON
(615) 313-4707

REPLACEMENT FOOD STAMPS AVAILABLE FOR CURRENT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS ONLY

FAMILIES NOT ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM SHOULD APPLY ON-LINE

- WHAT:** Shelby County residents currently enrolled in the Food Stamp Program who lost power in one of the affected areas for 24 hours or more are eligible for replacement benefits.
RESIDENTS WHO ARE NOT ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM ARE *NOT* ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE REPLACEMENT FOOD STAMPS FROM DHS DUE TO LOSS OF POWER.
Food Stamp recipients can call the DHS Family Assistance Service Center (FASC) and speak with a counselor, or visit their local office to request replacement benefits. There are currently 98,300 households (214,000 individuals) enrolled in the Food Stamp program in Shelby County.
- WHERE:** DHS Wells Office at 3360 South Third or
DHS North Office at 3230 Jackson Avenue
- WHEN:** Food Stamp program recipients must request replacement benefits within 10 (ten) calendar days of losing power in the MLGW-designated area.
DHS offices are open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.
The FASC number takes calls Monday – Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. The number is 1-866-311-4287.
- MORE:** Non-food stamp recipients (people who are not currently enrolled in the program) are not eligible to have their lost food replaced by the DHS. These citizens should contact 2-1-1 for help and NOT call the FASC. Increased volume to this phone line is preventing those DHS clients from receiving needed services.
To apply for the Food Stamp program, visit the DHS website and click on “Apply for Benefits” at the following address: www.tn.gov/humanserv

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CITIZENS PLAZA, 15TH FLOOR
400 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TN 37248
615.313.4700