#### SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

# DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DSNAP)

#### **MANUAL**

VOL. 5 08/2014



# DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DSNAP)

#### MANUAL

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### **Chapter 1 Introduction**

This manual is designed to serve as a tool to help DSS tailor its Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) response to:

- 1. The nature of the disaster and the scope of the damage and
- 2. Its unique geographic, economic, political and demographic circumstances.

This manual has been organized into three major parts to assist in the implementation of a DSNAP with the corresponding subsections:

- I. Federal Government Response in a Disaster
- II. State Government Response in a Disaster
- III. South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) Response in a Disaster
  - Pre-Disaster Planning
  - Disaster Response
  - Application/Issuance Site
  - Certification Process
  - EBT Issuance
  - Post-Disaster Follow-up
  - Glossary
  - DSNAP Tool Kit.

To use the manual effectively and make it a more useful tool:

- 1. Review the entire manual to become familiar with its substance, organization and format.
- 2. Use the manual in pre-disaster planning exercises and disaster training and
- 3. Utilize forms and charts in the DSNAP` Tool Kit in pre and post disaster activities.

#### 1.1 Federal Government Response in a Disaster

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Role

FEMA is charged with the overall management of federal response in a presidential declared disaster.

#### **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Role**

USDA is the lead agency for Emergency Support Function (ESF)-11 Agriculture and Natural Resources and Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) is the lead agency within USDA for the nutrition assistance functions under ESF-11.

The FNS Disaster Task Force coordinates all ESF-11 nutrition assistance activities within USDA and with FEMA, other support agencies, and State and local disaster officials.

#### Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Role

FNS provides food assistance in three ways:

- Provides foods for shelters and other mass feeding sites.
- Provides foods for distribution directly to households in need in certain limited circumstances.
- Provides DSNAP benefits.

FNS supports the State's efforts to provide DSNAP benefits by providing policy guidance, training, and technical assistance to state agencies as they can plan, implement, and assess their DSNAP activities. FNS provides approval for state DSNAP Plans and state applications to operate the DSNAP and uses the information provided in post-disaster reviews and assessments to improve DSNAP policy, training, and technical assistance.

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act provide the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to operate a DSNAP when affected areas have received a Presidential major disaster declaration and when commercial channels of food distribution are available. The Food Stamp Act provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to establish temporary emergency standards of eligibility for households who are victims of a disaster that disrupts commercial channels of food distribution after those channels have been restored.

As the DSNAP provides an entire month's benefits and is administratively challenging for states to deliver, FNS must target DSNAP resources to areas where they are most needed. Therefore, for the vast majority of disasters, the FNS has elected to approve the operation of the DSNAP under Stafford Act authority when affected areas have received a Presidential declaration for individual assistance. This is because project areas that have Presidential declaration of individual assistance clearly contain an appreciable number of households in need of personal assistance and are much more likely to require intensive food aid than areas without such a declaration.

Should an extraordinary situation arise that does not receive a Presidential declaration for individual assistance, yet merits some nutrition response beyond the regular program, FNS can consider use of the Food and Nutrition Act authority, but only after consulting with officials empowered to exercise the authority of the Stafford Act.

#### **Other Support Assistance**

There are 7 support agencies to assist USDA in fulfilling the ESF-11 function of providing, storing and transporting food to disaster areas. Most of these functions will not be relevant to the DSNAP. However, when operating a DSNAP, other Federal agencies may be needed to help carry out non-food related functions (e.g., to build DSNAP facilities, provide potable water, etc.). A list of the most common non-food related needs and the agencies that can assist are listed below.

| Federal Agency Emergency Support Functions           |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Agency   | Responsibilities   |  |
| Department of<br>Defense (DOD)                       | <ul> <li>Assess the availability of DOD food supplies and storage facilities for dry, chilled, and frozen food, and arrange for their delivery and distribution.</li> <li>Assess the availability of DOD transportation or material handling equipment and personnel. Note: this obligation is limited to the posts, camps, and stations within or adjacent to the disaster area.</li> </ul> |  |
| Department of<br>Health and Human<br>Services (DHHS) | <ul> <li>Determine which foods are fit for human consumption and identify potential problems of contaminated foods.</li> <li>Provide health education concerning food preparation and storage.</li> </ul>  |  |
| Department of<br>Transportation<br>(DOT)             | <ul> <li>Assess the availability of all modes of transportation that are equipped to keep food cold or frozen.</li> <li>Coordinate with the General Services Administration to arrange for transportation of emergency food supplies into and within the designated area.</li> </ul>   |  |
| American Red<br>Cross                                | <ul> <li>Identify and assess the requirements for food and distribution services for the critical emergency phase and for longer term needs after the emergency phase is over.</li> <li>Coordinate the food distribution efforts of other volunteer organizations.</li> </ul>  |  |
| Department of<br>Homeland<br>Security (DHS)          | Coordinate the recovery and restoration of critical infrastructure including the allocation and prioritization of resources and demographic data about the disaster area.  |  |
|  | Provide consolidated information on State, local, and private sources of food to help determine the types and quantities of foods FNS must provide.  |  |
| Environmental<br>Protection Agency<br>(EPA)          | <ul> <li>Provide technical assistance in determining the suitability of food and water for human consumption.</li> <li>Identify potential hazardous materials impact on the food supply.</li> </ul>  |  |
| Salvation Army                                       | Identify and assess the requirements for food and distribution services for<br>the critical emergency phase and for longer term needs after the<br>emergency phase is over.  |  |

#### **Other Federal Assistance**

The following table identifies some sources of federal assistance that do not relate *directly* to the ESF-11 objectives of obtaining, transporting and distributing food.

| Other Federal Assistance                    |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Agency                                      | Responsibilities   |  |  |
| Army Corps of<br>Engineers                  | Public works and engineering (ESF-3) includes:  • Providing potable water  |  |  |
|   | Structural inspection for damage assessment  |  |  |
| Forest Service                              | • Fighting fires (ESF-4)   |  |  |
|   | • FS can provide FNS with supplies including: tents, trailers, portable buildings, ropes, etc.                                 |  |  |
|   | • FS can provide staff to assist as appropriate.   |  |  |
| Department of<br>Homeland Security<br>(DHS) | Providing technical services (ESF-5) such as:  • Aerial reconnaissance  • Meteorology and seismology  • Structural engineering |  |  |
|   | Flooding and dam safety  |  |  |
|   | Law enforcement issues   |  |  |
| GSA   | Resource support (ESF-7), including emergency provision of office space, equipment and supplies                                |  |  |
| Department of<br>Energy                     | Provision of emergency power and fuel to support immediate disaster response functions (ESF-12)                                |  |  |
| National Guard                              | Transporting or guarding electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards  |  |  |
|   | Crowd control or other application site security   |  |  |

#### 1.2 State Government Response in a Disaster

When a disaster is imminent/occurs, state and local entities are called into action. The state government initial response to a disaster requires close coordination and communication among the following agencies:

| State Agency Emergency Support Functions            |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Agency  | Responsibilities   |  |
| Office of the Governor                              | The Office of the Governor issues the Executive Order for a declared disaster and communicates to other state agencies the appropriate action to be taken by these agencies. |  |
| State Emergency<br>Preparedness<br>Division (EPD)   | EPD coordinates all activities relating to a disaster and communicates to other agencies involved on actions to be taken throughout the disaster response.                   |  |
| Department of<br>Social Services<br>(DSS)           | DSS is responsible for emergency social services and administers federal disaster recovery programs when authorized.   |  |
| South Carolina<br>National Guard<br>(SCNG)          | SCNG transports or guards SNAP Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards within the disaster area. SCNG assists with crowd control or other application site security.        |  |
| State Law<br>Enforcement<br>Division (SLED)         | SLED assists local law enforcement agencies with security and crowd control.   |  |
| Department of<br>Education, County<br>School System | Department of Education, County School Systems, manages the requisitioning of USDA food under the particular programs which they administer.                                 |  |

#### 13 South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) Response in a Disaster

The primary responsibility for providing emergency food assistance in the State rests with the South Carolina Department of Social Services. SCDSS must design its own DSNAP Plan, evaluate the need for a DSNAP or another feeding program should a disaster strike, submit to FNS a detailed request to operate a DSNAP, effectively implement the DSNAP, perform post-disaster reviews, and report their findings to FNS. If a determination is made that The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and/or a DSNAP may be warranted, the following DSS areas are called into action:

| South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) Emergency Support<br>Functions |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| DSS Area  | Responsibilities   |  |  |
| Human Resource<br>Management  | Coordinates with the Deputy State Director of Economic Services regarding temporary staff assignments in affected areas.   |  |  |
| Support Services  | Is responsible for the provision of supplies and equipment when a disaster is declared.  |  |  |
| Vehicle<br>Management   | Coordinates vehicles and transportation.   |  |  |
| Information<br>Systems  | Is responsible for:  1. System support 2. Communication 3. System contingencies 4. Terminals, laptops, etc. Data entry resources, if necessary. Is responsible for issuance in a DSNAP to include:   |  |  |
| EBT Unit  | Assessment of EBT online capability of all retailers in the affected area and     Determination of the operability of EBT equipment in affected county offices.  |  |  |
| Division of Audits  | Is responsible for accountability and post-disaster activities   |  |  |
| Office of<br>Economic<br>Services   | <ul> <li>Upon a major disaster declaration by the President of the United States, is responsible for:</li> <li>1. The distribution of food commodities for congregate feeding or for household distribution and/or</li> <li>2. The authorization and implementation of a DSNAP.</li> </ul> |  |  |
| The Division of Investigation (DOI)   | Is responsible for post-disaster activities and monitoring employee disaster applications.   |  |  |

# South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) Emergency Support Functions DSS Area Responsibilities Constituent Services and Media Relations Affected County Offices The County Director of a disaster affected county will coordinate all activities relating to disaster response within his/her county, to include shelter operations and disaster relief programs DSS is assigned to administer.

#### South Carolina Department of Social Services State Disaster Contacts

| Name                    | Phone          | Position          | Agency |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------|
|                         | Number         |                   |        |
| Amber Gillum            | (803) 898-1309 | Acting State      | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | Director          |        |
| Karama Bailey           | (803) 898-7474 | Acting State      | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | Deputy Director   |        |
|                         |                | of Economic       |        |
|                         |                | Services and      |        |
|                         |                | Division Director |        |
|                         |                | of County         |        |
|                         |                | Operations        |        |
| Sele Aligibe            | (803) 898-7618 | Director of       | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | Disaster Relief   |        |
| Larry Young             | (803) 898-7396 | Division Director | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | of Employment     |        |
|                         |                | Services          |        |
| Robin Verenes           | (803) 898-7510 | Division Director | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | of Administrative |        |
|                         |                | Services          |        |
| Gwendolyn Prioleau      | (803) 898-7104 | Director of       | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | EBT/Food          |        |
|                         |                | Services          |        |
| Stacey Richardson       | (803) 898-0973 | ESF-11            | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | Coordinator       |        |
| Darise Graham           | (803) 898-8193 | SNAP              | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | Policy Director   |        |
| Dana Outlaw             | (803) 898-9473 | DSNAP             | SCDSS  |
|                         |                | Coordinator       |        |
| Kaci Herrington-Garrett | (803) 898-0086 | DSNAP             | SCDSS  |
|                         | , ,            | Coordinator       |        |
| Colleen Donovan         | (803) 898-0744 | WIC Director      | SCDHEC |
| Todd A. Bedenbaugh      | (803) 734-8205 | Special Nutrition | SCDOE  |
|                         |                | Program Director  |        |
| Ben Madden              | (803) 734-8209 | ESF-11 NSLP       | SCDOE  |
| Lorraine Wells          | (803) 734-0897 | ESF-11 NSLP       | SCDOE  |
| Leon Williams           | (803)734-9199  | Child Nutrition   | SCDOE  |
|                         |                | Program           |        |

#### South Carolina Department of Social Services County Office Disaster Contacts

| County       | County Director          | FS Supervisor or<br>Emergency Food<br>Assistance Coordinator | Phone Number              |
|--------------|--------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Abbeville    | Merry Eve G. Poole       | Montee Gary  | (864) 459-5481            |
| Aiken        | Christine Wright         | Carolina James   | (803) 649-1111            |
| Allendale    | Donella Robinson         | Tara Williams  | (803 584-7048<br>EXT. 226 |
| Anderson     | Glenn Farrow             | Shea Marsden   | (864) 260-4100            |
| Bamberg      | Anita J. Butler          | Terrance McMillan  | (803) 245-4361            |
| Barnwell     | Ethel Milhouse           | Cynthia S Williams   | (803) 541-1200            |
| Beaufort     | Julie Schneider          | Benjamin Gillens   | (843) 470-4618            |
| Berkeley     | Enid Jenkins             | Samone Johnson   | (843) 719-1085            |
| Calhoun      | Michelle Brewton         | Clayann Fields   | (803) 874-3384            |
| Charleston   | Lois Richter             | Latoya Gadson White  | (843) 297-0541            |
| Cherokee     | David Drennan            | Elizabeth Tisdale  | (864)487-2704             |
| Chester      | Georgette Boulware, Int. | Carolyn Boyd   | (803) 377-8131            |
| Chesterfield | Ralph Laney              | Johnny Magnum  | (843) 623-5327            |
| Clarendon    | Robin "Holly" Layton     | Dawn Still   | (803) 435-4303            |
| Colleton     | Audrey Brown             | Carrie Myers   | (843) 584-4030            |
| Darlington   | Ronald Krein             | Barbara Hardwicke  | (843) 332-2231            |
| Dillon       | Karen English            | Ressie Jones   | (843) 774-8284            |
| Dorchester   | Tim Nix                  | Johana Cadiz   | (843) 821-0444            |
| Edgefield    | Moronda Talley           | Sharon Holloway  | (803) 637-4040            |
| Fairfield    | James Nichols            | Runace Byrd  | (803) 635-5502            |
| Florence     | Debra Donahue            | Lowell Manning   | (843) 669-3354            |
| Georgetown   | Robin Poston             | Robin Poston   | (843) 546-5134            |
| Greenville   | Keith Frazier            | Andrena Rice   | (864)467-7889             |
| Greenwood    | Sabrina Miller           | Janice Norman  | (864) 229-5258            |
| Hampton      | Bridget Gray Peeples     | Alice Wright   | (803) 943-3641            |

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| County       | County Director     | FS Supervisor or<br>Emergency Food<br>Assistance Coordinator | Phone Number               |
|--------------|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Horry        | Wanda Squires       | Debbie Franklin  | (843) 915-4729             |
| Jasper       | Rochelle Priester   | Priscilla Drake Jenkins                                      | (843) 726-7753             |
| Kershaw      | Jeanne Bass-Hanna   | Betty Stewart  | (803) 432-7676             |
| Lancaster    | Janice Chapman      | Dianne Williams  | (803) 286-6914             |
| Laurens      | Byron Dendy         | Lisa Bell  | (864) 833-0100             |
| Lee          | Julie Tice-Atkinson | Barbara D McCray   | (803) 484-5376             |
| Lexington    | Greg Frohnappel     | Cheryl Shorter   | (803) 785-7333             |
| McCormick    | Robbie W. Seigler   | Shirley Walker   | (864) 465-2140             |
| Marion       | Orbee Friday        | Sherrie Richardson   | (843) 423-4623             |
| Marlboro     | Sylvester Woods     | Janise Jones & Ethelyne Simmons                              | (843)479-7181              |
| Newberry     | Kenneth McBride     | Joe Harris   | (803)321-2155              |
| Oconee       | Tammy Allen         | Laura Mathis   | (864) 638-4400             |
| Orangeburg   | Carolyn Sherman     | Yolanda Thomas Irons   | (803) 531-1748             |
| Pickens      | Nikita Harrison     | Pam Rampay   | (864) 898-5269             |
| Richland     | Reese Palmer        | Kim Baker  | (803) 714-7300             |
| Saluda       | Becky McDowell      | Jane Knight  | (864) 445-8151             |
| Spartanburg  | Katie Brophy        | Donna Anderson   | (864) 596-3001             |
| Sumter       | Maggie McDonald     | Maggie McDonald  | (803) 773-5531<br>EXT. 300 |
| Union        | Jim Nichols, Int.   | Susan Gregory  | (864) 429-1660             |
| Williamsburg | Barbara Parrott     | Gale Rich  | (843) 355-5411             |
| York         | Yvonne Stewart      | Annette Killian  | (803) 909-7446             |

# Chapter 2 Pre-Disaster Planning for a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP)

Although it is impossible to be completely prepared for disasters, as the State cannot predict the timing or extent of damage for a given disaster, DSS can take actions that lead to the best possible level of disaster preparedness. This chapter will outline some preplanning exercises to increase disaster preparedness.

#### 2.1 Office of Economic Services

To ensure a timely and appropriate disaster response, the Office of Economic Services will organize staff assignments, including personnel to man emergency phone lines with division staff, provide training on the implementation of TEFAP and/or DSNAP and provide technical assistance on site at TEFAP and/or DSNAP sites. FA will develop and review state TEFAP and DSNAP plans of operation, submit a state plan of operation for a DSNAP to FNS for approval and ensure adequate forms are available to operate TEFAP and or DSNAP.

#### 2.2 County Office Activities

Each county director will coordinate disaster response within his/her county. The following actions will be ongoing activities in county offices to ensure preparedness in the event of a disaster:

- Designate a staff member to be the Emergency Food Assistance Coordinator (EFAC) and identify other key staff members to assume lead responsibilities in disaster response activities. These designees should be trained in the implementation of TEFAP and DSNAP.
- Develop a staffing plan to identify county staff who will work in shelter operations and other disaster relief programs (TEFAP and DSNAP).

- Select an alternate site for distribution of TEFAP and/or DSNAP in the event that local county office facilities are not adequate or are not available. This alternate site must be secure for the operation of TEFAP and/or DSNAP.
- Appoint a member of county management staff to be responsible for all DSNAP
  applications filed by DSS employees. All documents used to determine eligibility for
  these employees must be maintained in a secure area by the County Director or
  his/her designee and
- Assure that an adequate supply of equipment and office items can be made readily available in the event of a disaster.

#### 2.3 Emergency Food Assistance Coordinator (EFAC) Duties

The EFAC in each county will have the following pre-disaster planning responsibilities:

- Coordinate with the DSS Director of Disaster Relief on the process to be used to provide data for damage assessment, securing disaster approval, and requesting emergency food assistance services.
- Develop the county plan for the implementation of the DSNAP and
- Identify staff members to be assigned lead responsibility for logistics, crowd control, DSNAP certification, DSNAP issuance, DSNAP program integrity.

#### 2.4 Staffing Planning

To the extent possible, each county office will identify, in advance of a disaster, the staff it will need to operate a DSNAP. Offices should plan not only for the staff needed at DSNAP sites, but also for increased staffing at all work areas that support the DSNAP offsite. County offices should anticipate that staff residing in areas affected by the disaster will need time away to prepare for or recover from the disaster, so not all local staff will be available to contribute to the DSNAP. In cases where inadequate local staff is available to staff DSNAP sites, county offices will request from the SCDSS Director of Disaster Relief the temporary transferring of staff from unaffected areas of their State.

County offices, should consider staff comforts and, if possible, staff should be provided with private break rooms and separate bathroom facilities. It may also be necessary and appropriate to provide meals, drinking water, and insect repellent for staff. In past disasters, staff meals have been:

- Provided by the Red Cross as part of canteen service at site.
- Bag lunches prepared and delivered by community or church groups.
- Pre-packaged military meals (MRE's) purchased by site manager.

- Meals provided by contracted service providers.
- Brought by staff and kept in designated coolers or refrigerators.



## Chapter 3 Disaster Response for a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP)

Under the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988, the President of the United States may declare a "major disaster" when requested to do so by the Governor. The Secretary of the USDA is authorized to make an independent evaluation following a presidential declared "major disaster" when requested to do so by the Governor to determine if there should be an authorization to implement a DSNAP.

#### 3.1 Lines of Authority

The State Director must establish clear lines of authority that delineate who can speak to the press, draft and clear press releases, and handle other aspects of public relations at command centers and application/issuance sites. Make sure all staff is aware of the lines of authority and who can speak to the press.

#### 3.2 Executive Management

Immediately following a disaster, the executive management staff will begin to assess the damage and to evaluate response options and strategies. A major element of the disaster response is to determine whether the DSNAP should be implemented and to develop the State's request to USDA-FNS to implement a DSNAP.

#### 3.3 Director of Disaster Relief

To coordinate emergency food assistance disaster activities, the Director of Disaster Relief will be the central point of contact for all DSS offices to provide information regarding damage assessments, to request supplies, assistance, etc.

The Director of Disaster Relief will be the central point of contact to provide information to county DSS offices regarding disaster assistance activities such as regular SNAP replacements, TEFAP, and the implementation of a DSNAP.

#### 3.4 Office of Economic Services

The Office of Economic Services will:

- Have staff available within 24 hours to coordinate with affected counties through the Director of Disaster Relief
- Review the DSNAP State Plan of Operation and
- Submit the State's official request to implement a DSNAP to USDA-FNS for approval.

#### 3.5 County Office Response

County staff will report to their regular duty stations if not otherwise given special assignments. Staff will be briefed by the County Director (his/her designee) or the EFAC on their roles and responsibilities in the DSNAP process. The EFAC in a county affected by a disaster has the following responsibilities:

- Obtain damage estimates from reliable entities.
- Report to the Director of Disaster Relief within 24 hours following a disaster to give a limited damage assessment to be included in the request by the Office of Economic Services for a DSNAP.
- Evaluate if TEFAP distribution is needed prior to the implementation of a DSNAP.
- Request TEFAP distribution or DSNAP through the Director of Disaster Relief.
- Request any equipment or supplies needed through the Director of Disaster Relief.
- Discuss with the Director of Disaster Relief the pre-determined need for the maximum number of additional staff upfront to implement TEFAP or the DSNAP in order to minimize the need to train staff during disaster activities.
- Implement the pre-arranged staffing assignments as needed.

- Make arrangements with local hotels for lodging for additional staff from other counties if appropriate and
- Make arrangements to have lunch provided on site for employees during disaster benefit issuance.

NOTE: Communications between the County and the Director of Disaster Relief is essential to ensure adequate service delivery.

#### 3.6 Damage Assessment

A comprehensive, in-depth assessment of a disaster situation is critical to determining the appropriate response necessary. The damage assessment provides the basis of development of a DSNAP plan of operation. The Director of Disaster Relief will collect and compile damage assessments from the State EPD, FEMA, DSS county offices, American Red Cross and the Salvation Army. Damage assessments to support a request for the DSNAP will be limited to the effect of the disaster on populated areas. The Damage Assessment Teams(s) will conduct a comprehensive damage assessment. The Director of Disaster Relief will rely on regional and state officials and agency staff who are familiar with the geographical area, or have experience with disasters or damage assessment. USDA-FNS field office personnel and DSS county office employee are an excellent resource at this stage because they are often the first at the scene and familiar with the locale. Damage assessment data will determine:

- The geological boundaries of the affected populated areas;
- The effect upon commercial channels of food; and
- An estimate of the total households affected.

#### 3.7 South Carolina Emergency Disaster System (SEDS)

South Carolina has internally developed a computer program for the implementation of a DSNAP. This is the State Emergency Disaster System (SEDS). For disaster response, SEDS provides the State Agency with information to determine whether the DSNAP should be implemented and to develop the State's request to USDA-FNS to implement a DSNAP.

Information on the status of a disaster and factors affecting the response to the disaster continues to be produced and available through this system during the disaster response period. SEDS screens for disaster planning and monitoring can be viewed in the attachment to this volume titled **SEDS: State Emergency Disaster System.** Information available through these screens includes:

• County Map and information: latitude, longitude, time zone, elevation, population, average income, total number of households, average size of households.

- Most current NOAA satellite images.
- Worldwide earthquake data (from the past 24 hours) updated every 30 minutes.
- Current South Carolina weather warnings by county.
- State power outage map.
- Links to disaster related web sites such as Dept. of Transportation evacuation routes data, Dept. of Public Safety evacuation information, FEMA, National Flood Insurance Program, etc.

#### 3.8 Notifying the Public

Experience with disasters has taught that it is essential to take a proactive approach to public information and outreach from the start of the disaster response. Planning ahead is critical. Constituent Services and Media Relations in the Office of General Counsel will:

| Public Information and Outreach Actions   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Action  | When   |  |
| Arrange with FEMA to have initial press releases given "priority use" in official FEMA statements.  | Immediately  |  |
| Issue press release(s) with:  • DSNAP eligibility and verification requirements  • Civil and criminal penalties for fraud  • Proper use of SNAP benefits  • Non-discrimination statement.   | Any time after it is clear that DSNAP will be operated |  |
| Contact advocate community groups to enlist their support with outreach   | As soon as possible                                    |  |
| <ul> <li>Issue press release(s) with:</li> <li>Location and operating hours of application/issuance sites</li> <li>Special provisions (e.g. approved waivers)</li> <li>Instructions for on-going participants and "special needs" applicants</li> <li>fraud control measures</li> </ul> | Any time after these details are determined            |  |
| Set up news conferences to make major announcements.  | As appropriate   |  |

When it is determined that a DSNAP will be implemented, a press release will be issued by Constituent Services and Media Relations to include:

- 1. Location and operating hours of application/issuance sites;
- 2. Special provisions (i.e., approved waivers);
- 3. Instructions for ongoing participants and "special needs" applicants;
- 4. DSNAP eligibility and verification requirements;
- 5. Fraud control measures and civil and criminal penalties for fraud;
- 6. Proper use of SNAP benefits; and
- 7. Non-discrimination statement.

The SC EBT Office will:

| Public Information and Outreach Actions  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Action   | When        |
| Contact retailers with information to post to their stores regarding:  • whether temporary IDs will be issued or required  • any relevant waivers (e.g. hot food waiver)  • the estimated number of new SNAP clients  • DSNAP sites, hours, etc. | Immediately |

Constituent Services and Media Relations in the Office of General Counsel will also provide DSNAP information to the DSS Website and to the Healthyhelpings.org website. Although potential clients living in disaster areas might have limited access to the web, experience has shown that their friends and family outside of the disaster area will seek information on their behalf and provide it to them by telephone.

County Offices should make special efforts to contact segments of the community that may not be able to be reached through the mainstream media. The Agency has set up a TTY/TDD service to answer questions from deaf or hard-of-hearing populations and will arrange with television stations to provide close-captioned public service announcements regarding disaster aid and the DFSP that will publicize the TTY/TDD number during the announcements.

The table below contains ideas on how to reach some of the special segments of the community:

| Potential Community Outreach Partners |   |                |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|--|--|
| Community                             | Suggestions for Contact   | Local Contacts |  |  |
| Rural/agricultural                    | <ul> <li>Community churches</li> <li>Agriculture/extension offices</li> <li>Local papers/radio/TV stations</li> <li>Community partner's websites</li> </ul>   |                |  |  |
| Elderly & Disabled                    | <ul> <li>Advocate groups (e.g. AARP)</li> <li>Retirement/health care facilities</li> <li>Post materials in banks, stores</li> <li>Local papers/radio/TV stations</li> <li>Community partner's websites</li> </ul> |                |  |  |
| Deaf and Hearing Impaired             | <ul> <li>Advocate groups</li> <li>Colleges/universities for the deaf</li> <li>Targeted publications</li> <li>Local papers and TV stations</li> <li>Community partner's websites</li> </ul>                        |                |  |  |
| Non-English Speaking                  | <ul> <li>Advocate/community groups</li> <li>Local churches</li> <li>Language-specific papers/radio/TV</li> <li>Community partner's websites</li> </ul>  |                |  |  |

#### 3.9 Supplies and Equipment

Support Services is responsible for the provision of supplies and equipment during a disaster. Requests for emergency supplies or equipment to implement a DSNAP should be made through the Director of Disaster Relief using the following procedures:

- Send all emergency supply and equipment requests to the Director of Disaster Relief as soon as possible
- Make each request with the appropriate requisition forms; DSS-569, Requisition for Forms, Publications, or Supplies DSS -1402, Purchasing Requisition
- Mark each request "Emergency" and indicate the proper cost center.

Note: A separate PCA/Index Code will be established by the Deputy State Director of Economic Services as soon as possible to maintain a special account.

#### 3.10 Staffing

The decision to temporarily halt nonessential functions in order to release staff for temporary assignments in affected areas will be jointly made the executive management staff with the State Director's concurrence. State and county offices of unaffected counties will be required to temporarily assign employees as needed to assist disaster affected county offices that exhaust their employee resources in disaster operations. These temporary assignments will be coordinated by The Deputy State Director of Economic Services and Human Resource Management.

The State Director may direct that temporary staff be employed to assist in meeting extraordinary demands for manpower in a disaster situation. Temporary assignments to assist in disaster affected counties will be made from surrounding unaffected counties within commuting distance, unaffected counties around the state, and/or State office.

The following three categories of temporary employees are possibilities:

- Regular: Persons individually contacted by agency officials (e.g., appointing authorities, etc.) to work on a temporary hourly wage basis for a specific time period
- Employment Agency: Persons provided by private employment agencies (e.g., Kelly, Manpower or Roper Temporary Services, etc.)
- Federally Funded: Persons hired using federal funds made available due to the emergency.

The appointing authority may employ temporary staff as needed and as supported by their budget. The requesting official or designee hires the individual to fill the temporary position, completes all required personnel forms and completes DSS-1855, Hourly Employee Time Sheet.

The appointing authority places the order for employees using the Temporary State Employment Contract to include the following:

- Job title
- Qualifications
- Work to be done
- Where to report
- Working hours
- Length of employment.

The requesting official or designee must review and approve time reports completed by temporary employees. The employment agency determines reporting requirements and forms to be used.

If disaster areas have a shortage of motel room accommodations, the Office of Economic Services will make efforts to coordinate staff from unaffected counties with relatives in the affected areas for temporary assignment. Others will be called upon as the disaster county notifies the Office of Economic Services of motel rooms that have become available.

#### 3.11 Vehicles and Transportation

In the event of a declared disaster requiring the delivery of TEFAP and/or DSNAP, Vehicle Management staff will have the following responsibilities:

- Provide and procure necessary vehicles to provide delivery to designated disaster areas.
- Provide vehicles to state office staff traveling to designated disaster area and
- Obtain law enforcement escort assistance as necessary

NOTE: County staff being sent to assist a county with implementation of a DSNAP will use vehicles from the sending county and designate expenses to a specific disaster Index Code/PCA.

Vehicle Management will be responsible for obtaining vehicles from all state office pool vehicles and non-state vehicles (vans and tractor trailers) in accordance with established State Fleet Management and Procurement procedures. When using a state vehicle, the traveler will be responsible for reviewing and complying with the regulations as with regular travel. These rules are found in each vehicle. Any problems with the vehicle are to be reported to Vehicle Management staff immediately.

#### 3.12 Program Integrity/Fraud Prevention

DSS has developed strategies to prevent fraud and ensure program integrity from the start of the disaster response. Government agencies and the public will be supportive of disaster response efforts, but will still expect the State to operate a DSNAP responsibly. DSS must find a balance between responding quickly to meet emergency food needs and encouraging the eligible public to participate in the program and protecting program integrity by ensuring that benefits only go to eligible participants and that these eligible participants receive the correct amount of benefits. A strategy to prevent fraud and ensure program integrity from the start of the program must be implemented. The more information applicants have about eligibility and verification requirements, the less likely they are to inadvertently provide erroneous information. Providing widespread information on fraud control measures will also reduce the number of intentional program violations.

The Division of Audits will be involved with the implementation of a DSNAP from the start of the disaster response to ensure that program integrity issues are addressed proactively. Working in partnership with Audits during all phases of the disaster response will also minimize the likelihood that problems will be addressed through audits.

The DSNAP staff will work with the Division of Investigation (DOI) and or county Benefit Integrity staff from the start of the disaster response to ensure that program integrity issues are addressed proactively and, during all phases of the disaster response, to minimize the likelihood that problems will need to be addressed through audits.

All individuals applying for DSNAP benefits will have their application information entered into the State Emergency Disaster System (SEDS). The information will be matched by Social Security Number (SSN) against regular SNAP participation in our mainframe eligibility system, CHIP, as well as within SEDS itself, to determine duplicate participation in either the SEDS or the regular SNAP for the same time period. If the SSN of the applicant, or any member of the household, has participated in the DSNAP or the regular SNAP for the same time period, SEDS will automatically deny the DSNAP application and no benefits will be issued for DSNAP.

If duplicate participation is found, SEDS will issue an error message that identifies the denial as a result of matching with CHIP or matching with SEDS. Any applications that are denied for duplicate participation will be investigated by Benefit Integrity Workers. These workers have super-user access within SEDS with override capability. When contact is made by the denied applicant household, if the duplicate participation match can be resolved, the Benefit Integrity Worker will be able to override the denial in SEDS and authorize an appropriate DSNAP benefit. SEDS screens for application entry can be viewed in the attachment to this volume entitled **SEDS: State Emergency Disaster System.** 

Trained Benefit Integrity Workers will also be employed at the DSNAP site to man marked tables to which certification workers can refer clients without verification or with inconsistent information.

DSS will provide information to applicants by the use of posters along the waiting lines at the application/issuance sites, distribution of fliers and playing recorded messages (both audio and visual) at sites (in appropriate languages). The more information applicants have about eligibility and verification requirements, the less likely they are to inadvertently provide erroneous information. This information will include:

- Program requirements
- Administrative, criminal, and civil penalties for fraud
- Notice that anti-fraud measures are in place
- Results of completed investigations and/or arrests for fraud
- Any existing State hotline number, website, or email address for reporting applicant or recipient fraud
- Information on what cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits.

SC EBT will communicate with retailers to let them know:

- Whether temporary IDs will be issued or required
- Of any relevant waivers (e.g., hot food waiver)
- The estimated number of new food stamp clients

DSS, during the implementation of a DSNAP, will take special measures to prevent employee fraud. In order to adhere to regulations, DSS will:

- Use separation of duties for certification and issuance.
- Use special authorization procedures and/or locations for employees applying for disaster benefits. The DSNAP will use Benefit Integrity/Recipient Claims Workers to take DSS employee DSNAP applications.
- Conduct a Quality Control (QC) review of all employee applications. This policy will be publicized as part of DSNAP information.
- Inventory office equipment/supplies and compare at close-out.

#### 3.13 The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Upon receipt of a major disaster declaration by the President of the United States or an Executive Order by the Governor of South Carolina, the Office of Economic Services:

- Collect data pertaining to need in areas affected by disaster;
- If appropriate, forward request to FNS for approval to release food items for emergency use, documenting notification and/or request for food(s) and other pertinent information by completion of the DSS-3455, Disaster Notification/Request Documentation Form;
- Prepare request for and order food products;
- Distribute food products to affected areas;
- Monitor use of donated food products daily;
- Provide reports as requested to FNS daily;
- Assure all staff are aware of the unit plan and of any changes in the plan; and
- Ensure that the Director of Disaster Relief is aware of all activities and/or changes which may occur.

Food provided for disaster distribution will be released only upon approval by the Office of Economic Services staff, after approval from FNS.

When food is requested for group feedings, each requesting agency must provide the following to the Director of Disaster Relief:

1. Description of the disaster situation, with the estimated number of people requiring meals;

- 2. Estimated time period involved in the distribution;
- 3. Quantity and types of foods needed; and
- 4. Number and locations of sites being used for the group feedings.

The agency must sign an Agreement of Understanding upon receipt of donated commodities.

Within 15 days following termination of disaster activities, approved institutions/organizations must provide a summary report of actual activities to the Office of Economic Services. This report must contain the number of meals and individuals served, if group feeding; the number of households served by size if household distribution; and the amount of each food type left over at termination of disaster period.

During the disaster distribution activities, the Division of Family Assistance is responsible for assuring that donated foods are used only for authorized emergency food assistance and that disaster relief agencies maintain accurate and complete records concerning the receipt, disposal and inventory of foods for emergency assistance. Within 30 days following termination of disaster activities, Family Assistance must provide a summary report to FNS, Regional Office, accounting for all food(s) utilized during disaster activities.

#### 3.14 The Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP)

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to operate a DSNAP when affected areas have received a Presidential major disaster declaration and when commercial channels of food distribution are available. The Food Stamp Act provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to establish temporary emergency standards of eligibility for households who are victims of a disaster that disrupts commercial channels of food distribution after those channels have been restored.

As the DSNAP provides an entire month's benefits and is administratively challenging for states to deliver, FNS must target DSNAP resources to areas where they are most needed. Therefore, for the vast majority of disasters, the FNS has elected to approve the operation of the DSNAP under Stafford Act authority when affected areas have received a Presidential declaration for individual assistance. This is because project areas that have Presidential declaration of individual assistance clearly contain an appreciable number of households in need of personal assistance and are much more likely to require intensive food aid than areas without such a declaration.

Should an extraordinary situation arise that does not receive a Presidential declaration for individual assistance, yet merits some nutrition response beyond the regular

program, FNS can consider use of the Food and Nutrition Act authority, but only after consulting with officials empowered to exercise the authority of the Stafford Act.

DSS may request approval from USDA-FNS to implement a DSNAP or may request waivers to the regular SNAP that narrow the disaster application process.

Waivers can be granted based on the size and scale of the disaster and areas affected. For these reasons, specific disaster certification procedures will be established and issued at the time of each disaster. The DSNAP is a separate program from the regular SNAP. The eligibility criteria are very different.

Workers must be trained to know the difference between the two programs to avoid confusion and errors during the application process.

The details of a DSNAP will vary with each disaster, but the basic principles and framework will apply to any disaster

| Authorities to Operate DSNAP                 |  |                            |  |  |  |
|--|--|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Factor                                       | Required for<br>Food and<br>Nutrition Act? | Required for Stafford Act? |  |  |  |
| Presidential declaration of "Major Disaster" | No   | Yes                        |  |  |  |
| Commercial channels                          | Yes  | No                         |  |  |  |
| of food distribution disrupted               |  |                            |  |  |  |
| Commercial channels                          | Yes  | Yes                        |  |  |  |
| of food distribution available               |  |                            |  |  |  |

Prior to a decision to enact the DSNAP, replacements for food destroyed as a result of the disaster may be authorized according to regular SNAP policy. For details regarding a DSNAP see:

- <u>Chapter 4</u>: Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Application/Issuance Sites
- <u>Chapter 5</u>: Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Certification Process
- <u>Chapter 6</u>: Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Issuance/EBT

FEMA will not provide funds for costs incurred for the *sole purpose* of administering the DSNAP (e.g., overtime for staff working solely on the DFSP). Administrative costs associated solely with the DSNAP are subject to the usual 50/50 cost share provisions. However:

- FEMA will pay for extra expenses incurred by FNS in performance of its ESF-11 mission assignment (e.g. overtime for Disaster Field Office staff).
- FEMA *may* contribute funds for staff assigned to perform functions associated with both an ESF-11 mission assignment and the DSNAP (e.g., staff gathering information at DSNAP sites for use in FEMA-required reports).
- If a DSNAP application site is at a location jointly staffed by FEMA, FEMA may provide directly for the cost of leasing the facility, human comfort items for those waiting in lines (e.g., portable toilets, tents), and other shared resources. Whether to co-locate Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) and DSNAP sites should be coordinated early with FEMA, FNS and the State agency so that needs are identified and agreements made as to whether and to what extent FEMA will provide funding or other resources.



### Chapter 4 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Application/Issuance Sites

# 4.1 Factors in Choosing a Site for a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP)

DSNAP application/Issuance sites have been operated in schools, local welfare offices, stadiums, police stations, libraries, mobile vans, and out of rented trailers and tents. Consult with police or other security personnel in developing the lay out and traffic flow within the site. In some national disasters, the lay out of the application site, including the location of portable toilets, has been at issue because of reports of threatened robberies or violence. To avoid problems and confusion, especially in large application sites, having and using portable radios, walkie-talkies, and cell phones is essential. Depending on the local climate, facilities and the setup, the site manager should develop a severe weather plan. In some national disasters, large tents had to be evacuated during lightning storms and hundreds of applicants moved to safety.

County Offices should consider the factors in the table below when determining the number and placement of sites to operate a DSNAP.

| Appl | Application/Issuance Site Selection Guide   |  |  |  |  |  |
|------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| (✓)  | Factor                                      | Examples   |  |  |  |  |
|      | Can the site be co-located with FEMA's DRC? |  |  |  |  |  |
|      | Public transportation and/or adequate       | Shuttle service from other location, parking limited to handicapped cars, large conference center type |  |  |  |  |

| parking available?   | facility   |
|--|--|
| Site accessible to trucks or other large vehicles?   | Sanitation and medical services, delivery of food, water, supplies, etc.   |
| Adequate space and/or facilities to address human comfort concerns?  | Protection from the elements, space for portable toilets, food/water tent, etc.  |
| Space large enough to serve the expected number of applicants?   | Space for tents or trailers, large auditoriums, space for waiting  |
| Issuance facility can be adequately secured?  (Consult with local police on site selection and security issues). | Isolated rooms or areas, building protected from public access, parts that can be closed off by security, traffic flow directed away from issuance sites |
| Accessible to the elderly and disabled, or can they be made more accessible?                                     | Wheelchair ramps, bathroom facilities, separate location/room for elderly & disabled, plenty of seating available  |
| In close proximity to all affected segments of the community?  | Several sites spread geographically over the area, large centrally-located stadium with easy access, mobile vans to elderly/disabled centers             |
| Adequate power?  | Electricity, generators and fuel   |

#### 4.2 Site Lay Out and Traffic Flow

Establish the lay out of the application/issuance site and traffic flow through the site immediately. Develop a flow chart identifying the lay out and traffic flow through the site and use it while setting up and managing the site. The chart will assist in spotting potential bottlenecks and other trouble spots and identifying staffing, security, supply and other administrative needs. The lay out and traffic flow through the site should address the following issues.

| Site Lay Out Guidance    |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Issue                    | Layout Solution  | Additional Information   |  |  |  |
| EBT Card Security        | Restrict access to issuance storage sites by arranging seating, eligibility determination areas, and queues away from this area and block all but one door into issuance area  |  |  |  |  |
| Staff/Applicant Security | Arrange site to minimize crowd density during wait, provide private break rooms and bathrooms to staff and minimize visibility of special treatment for elderly/disabled to people waiting in long lines   | Contact local police and private security companies  |  |  |  |
| Crowd Control            | <ul> <li>Arrange for the queue to move from one station/event to another to give clients to feel a sense of progress and reduce their anxiety.</li> <li>Post signs at intervals throughout the queue to alert clients to the estimated wait time from that point and to inform new arrivals of the queue's starting point.</li> <li>Manage a long queue at a compact site with a zigzag queue, formed with ropes or other movable barriers.</li> </ul> | Combined, these will calm those with a long wait and discourage people from "cutting" in line.  See Section 4.8, Crowd Control |  |  |  |
| Human Comforts           | <ul> <li>Arrange queues to maximize protection from elements</li> <li>Place water/food station(s) near areas of long wait</li> <li>Place toilets to maximize privacy (away from lines)</li> <li>Set up special areas for those waiting for shuttles and rides.</li> </ul>  | See Section 4.5, Human<br>Comforts   |  |  |  |

Some suggested aids to address the lay out and traffic flow issues are listed in the table below. Add any additional ideas developed during pre-disaster planning.

| Site Lay Out Suggestions |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Tools                    | Examples  |
| Ropes and barriers       | <ul> <li>To establish lines</li> <li>To block or limit access to secure areas</li> <li>To direct traffic flow through site</li> </ul> |

| Site Lay Out Suggestions |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Signs                    | <ul> <li>IN/OUT</li> <li>Household size signs on issuance lines</li> <li>Expected wait times. Example: "There is a 3 hour wait from here".</li> <li>Site hours of operation. Example: "Applications will be taken at this site until 7:00 p.m. every day through Friday"</li> </ul>   |
| Check points             | <ul> <li>Set up check point just outside the facility to give applicants a number and to help control who comes into the site</li> <li>Set up check point before applicants enter issuance area to ensure that only approved households can enter</li> <li>Stop applicants before they get to interview area and let them in one at a time to see eligibility worker to ensure applicants have completed application and to maximize confidentiality of interviews</li> </ul> |

#### 4.3 Site Security

Security at the DSNAP application/issuance site is crucial. Each county office should contact local law enforcement authorities, during the DSNAP planning process, to design and locate sites to reduce crowd control and other security problems, determine the level of security needs for application/issuance sites and what kind of services local law enforcement can provide, and make agreements for onsite security services. County Offices may find the need to supplement security from local law enforcement with help from private security firms and may need to make agreements with private security firms in advance as well, to arrange for private security guards for application/issuance sites.

SCDSS will ensure the security of EBT cards during storage, transportation, and issuance. SCEBT will arrange security for:

- Any stock of pre-made, disaster EBT cards stored in a permanent facility inside or outside of the State.
- Transportation of cards from permanent storage facilities to temporary storage and distribution sites and vice versa.
- Storage of cards held at temporary storage and distribution sites.
- EBT handling at application/issuance sites.

The following EBT card security measures will be in place at application/issuance sites:

• Develop the application/issuance site lay out and traffic flow to minimize the movement of EBT cards

- Keep EBT cards out of sight of applicants
- Keep EBT card shipment boxes and trays closed prior to actual need
- Store cards in vaults or safes on site (arrange overnight security)
- Remove EBT cards from site by secure carrier each night

# 4.4 Equipping the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Application/Issuance Site

After the lay out, traffic flow, and staffing issues are addressed, it is important to determine how to equip the site. These issues involve the physical plant itself. Suggestions for supplies for the certification system are included in the table below.

| For            | uance Site Supplies  Item | Number     | Sources | Notes | (√) |
|----------------|---------------------------|------------|---------|-------|-----|
| Physical Plant | Tables                    | 1 (dilloci | Boarces | 11000 | /   |
|                | Chairs                    |            |         |       |     |
|                | Generators                |            |         |       |     |
|                | Fuel                      |            |         |       |     |
|                | Fans or heaters           |            |         |       |     |
|                | Tents                     |            |         |       |     |
|                | Copy machines             |            |         |       |     |
|                | Computers                 |            |         |       |     |
|                | Printers                  |            |         |       |     |
|                | Surge protectors          |            |         |       |     |
|                | Extension Cords           |            |         |       |     |
|                | Garbage bags              |            |         |       |     |
|                | Garbage cans              |            |         |       |     |
|                | Barricades (flexible      |            |         |       |     |
|                | preferred)                |            |         |       |     |
|                | Caution tape              |            |         |       |     |
|                | Message board             |            |         |       |     |
|                | Erasable markers          |            |         |       |     |
|                | Dollies                   |            |         |       |     |
|                | Porta-potties with        |            |         |       |     |
|                | service                   |            |         |       |     |
|                | Hand washing stations     |            |         |       |     |
|                | Dumpsters                 |            |         |       |     |
|                | Cones                     |            |         |       |     |
|                | Tower lighting            |            |         |       |     |
|                | Fire extinguishers        |            |         |       |     |
|                | Bins or garbage cans for  |            |         |       |     |
|                | clipboard storage         |            |         |       |     |
|                | Numbers/tickets           |            |         |       |     |
|                |                           |            |         |       |     |

| Application/Issu | ance Site Supplies         |        |         |       |     |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-----|
| For              | Item                       | Number | Sources | Notes | (√) |
| Communication    | Bull horns                 |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Radios                     |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Walkie-talkies             |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Cell Phones                |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Fraud flyers               |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Eligibility flyers         |        |         |       |     |
|                  | EBT card guidance          |        |         |       |     |
|                  | flyers                     |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Shopping tips flyers       |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Signage                    |        |         |       |     |
|                  | PA equipment &             |        |         |       |     |
|                  | recording on how to        |        |         |       |     |
|                  | complete application       |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Cameras or video-          |        |         |       |     |
|                  | cameras so offsite staff   |        |         |       |     |
|                  | can get visuals            |        |         |       |     |
|                  |                            |        |         |       |     |
| Issuance         | EBT cards                  |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Issuance                   |        |         |       |     |
|                  | documents/manifests        |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Allotment tables           |        |         |       |     |
|                  | EBT card readers           |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Secure onsite EBT card     |        |         |       |     |
|                  | storage                    |        |         |       |     |
|                  |                            |        |         |       |     |
|                  |                            |        |         |       |     |
| Certification    | Applications               |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Calculators                |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Batteries for calculators, |        |         |       |     |
|                  | radios, etc.               |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Staplers                   |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Staples                    |        |         |       |     |
|                  | File folders               |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Clip boards (to match      |        |         |       |     |
|                  | form size)                 |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Pens                       |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Eligibility and            |        |         |       |     |
|                  | verification checklists    |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Rubber bands               |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Storage bins               |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Scissors                   |        |         |       |     |
|                  | Box cutters                |        |         |       |     |

| Application/Issuance Site Supplies |                         |        |         |       |     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-----|
| For                                | Item                    | Number | Sources | Notes | (✓) |
|                                    | Trays                   |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Packing tape            |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Phone books             |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Map of affected area    |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | List of ongoing clients |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Carlon                  |        |         |       |     |
| Human Comforts                     | Coolers                 |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Ice                     |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Water                   |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Water containers        |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Cups                    |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Toilet paper            |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Paper towels            |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Sun block               |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Insect repellant        |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | First aid kits          |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Rain ponchos            |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Meals ready to eat      |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | (MRE)                   |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Snack foods for the     |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | ill/elderly             |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | (cookies/crackers/      |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | juice)                  |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Golf carts              |        |         |       |     |
|                                    | Wheel chairs            |        |         |       |     |
|                                    |                         |        |         |       |     |

## 4.5 Human Comforts

Addressing the human comfort needs of applicants is very important to the disaster response effort. Not only must these issues be addressed for humanitarian reasons, but also to decrease the likelihood of crowd control problems. DSNAP application/issuance sites should offer the following for all applicants.

## Water

- Protection from the elements
- Bathrooms
- Snacks, when feasible
- Minor medical care, when feasible.

Use the table below as a checklist. Add any additional ideas developed during predisaster planning.

| Hum        | Human Comforts Tools and Actions |   |  |
|------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>(√)</b> | Need                             | Suggestions   |  |
|            | Water/Food                       | <ul> <li>Water tanker trucks with drinkable water</li> <li>Several smaller water stations</li> <li>Small snacks available in case of illness</li> <li>Baby food for infants</li> <li>Red Cross canteen</li> <li>Other volunteer-run canteen</li> <li>Support staff to man water station(s)</li> <li>Locate application site(s) near mass feeding site(s)</li> </ul> |  |
|            | Protection from the Elements     | <ul> <li>Tents for shade/protection from rain</li> <li>Fans/heaters as appropriate</li> <li>Use indoor stadium/coliseum</li> <li>Run lines through hallways/breezeways</li> <li>Develop severe weather alternatives</li> </ul>  |  |
|            | Bathrooms                        | <ul> <li>Portable toilets located to provide some privacy and accessible to the elderly/disabled.</li> <li>Toilets serviced at least once a day</li> </ul>  |  |
|            | Medical Care                     | Ambulance or rescue squad on-site Volunteer doctors, nurses, other health care workers to handle emergencies  |  |

# 4.6 Elderly and Disabled Provisions

Special provisions must be made for the elderly and disabled to ensure their safety and comfort.

| Elde       | Elderly and Disabled Provisions     |   |  |  |  |
|------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <b>(√)</b> | Need                                | Suggestions   |  |  |  |
|            | Facilitate their access to the site | <ul> <li>Choose sites that are served by public transportation. Notify para-transit authorities of location of sites.</li> <li>Designate parking spots near site entrance for elderly or disabled use only.</li> <li>Make site is physically accessible to the elderly and disabled. Have staff or volunteers assist elderly or disabled clients from their cars/bus using wheelchairs or golf carts and escort them to the elderly/disabled area.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |

| Elde       | Elderly and Disabled Provisions                |   |  |  |
|------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>(√)</b> | Need   | Suggestions   |  |  |
|            | Reduce their wait                              | <ul> <li>Create a special waiting/eligibility/issuance determination area for use by the elderly and disabled only. Volunteers or staff can help identify elderly or disabled persons in the regular queue or their cars/bus and can escort them to the special waiting/eligibility/issuance area where they can be seated during their wait and given quick service.</li> <li>Eligibility and issuance staff assigned to the elderly/disabled site should be equipped with large print, Braille, or audio versions of their State application materials. Staff should be prepared to provide especially attentive service to clients who might need extra explanation of questions on the application, assistance filling in the application, or extra explanation of use of the EBT card. States should consider having on hand a sign language interpreter to assist clients who require one.</li> <li>Volunteers or staff should be on hand to assist the elderly and disabled with completing their application and moving from their seat to the interview and issuance tables.</li> </ul>  |  |  |
|            | Make them more comfortable while at the site   | <ul> <li>Instead of assembling waiting elderly and disabled persons into a standing queue, agencies should consider seating the elderly and disabled in a covered waiting area, using tear-off numbers or any other appropriate system to keep track of each individual's place in the queue.</li> <li>States should arrange for heating or cooling equipment at the elderly/disabled site if the community is experiencing temperature extremes.</li> <li>Station first-aid staff at the elderly/disabled waiting area or close-by for emergencies.</li> <li>Station volunteers or other human comforts staff in the elderly/disabled area to offer snacks and beverages to applicants and to periodically query applicants about any immediate human comforts needs they might have.</li> <li>Make sure that bathrooms are easily accessible from the elderly/disabled area (short distance, free of obstacles). States using portable toilets should arrange for an appropriate number of handicapped-accessible portable toilets and hand washing units. Volunteers or human comforts staff may need to escort clients to the bathrooms.</li> </ul> |  |  |
|            | Allow them to use an authorized representative | All regulations governing the use of an authorized representative for the SNAP apply to the DSNAP, including:  • The authorized representative designation must be made in writing by the head of the household, the spouse, or another   |  |  |

| Elde       | Elderly and Disabled Provisions |  |  |
|------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>(√)</b> | Need                            | Suggestions  |  |
|            |                                 | <ul> <li>responsible member of the household.</li> <li>State must verify the identity of the authorized representative and the applicant.</li> <li>For complete regulations on this subject, see CFR 273.2 (n).</li> </ul> |  |

Evaluate and monitor crowd control implications of special provisions made for elderly and disabled applicants. The table below addresses some ways that special provisions for the elderly and disabled can raise crowd control issues.

| Controlling Use of Special Provisions                                     |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Issue   | Solution   |  |
| There are too many elderly and disabled applicants to serve appropriately | <ul> <li>Issue a public service announcement suggesting that elderly and disabled applicants send authorized representatives to apply for them.</li> <li>Issue a public service announcement asking community for more volunteers to help with elderly and disabled.</li> <li>Increase issuance and/or certification staff for elderly or disabled clients.</li> <li>Create separate area or site to serve elderly or disabled clients.</li> </ul> |  |
| People are feigning illness, injury or disability to get faster service   | <ul> <li>Have nurses/other medical professionals screen for special treatment.</li> <li>Make special/faster service less conspicuous to crowd in regular line.</li> <li>Send people who do not fall into the "special" group back to the "regular" line to reduce the likelihood that people will try to falsely take advantage of the special service.</li> </ul>   |  |

# 4.7 Language Issues

County Offices should identify and coordinate with community organizations or professional language services that can assist with language services in the event of a disaster. Identify those contacts and any arrangements made so the information is available at the time of a disaster. Possible sources for translation services and interpreters include:

- Current staff
- Translation services
- Universities
- Churches
- Community centers
- Private assistance agencies
- Advocate/legal services groups

To the extent possible, the State Office will translate materials into these major languages during pre-disaster planning. Materials that require translation might include:

- Client applications
- General information handouts
- Eligibility requirements
- Fraud flier/posters
- DSNAP-related public web or hotline recording content
- Press releases for use on television and radio

| Language Service Requirements   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Resource  | Guideline  |  |
| Program information materials   | <ul> <li>In project areas with less than 2,000 low-income households if approximately 100 or 5% of those households are of a single language minority, or</li> <li>In project areas with a certification office that provides bilingual service.</li> </ul>  |  |
| Program information<br>materials, certification<br>materials (including<br>applications) and interpreters | <ul> <li>In offices that provide service to areas containing 100 single language minority households, or</li> <li>In project area with a total of less than 100 low-income households if a majority of those households are of a single language minority, or</li> <li>In project areas with a seasonal influx of non-English-speaking households, if during the seasonal influx the number of single-language minority low-income households which move into the area meets or exceeds the requirements in the paragraphs above.</li> </ul> |  |

## 4.8 Crowd Control

Crowd control measures are critical to the operation of the DSNAP application-issuance site. Very large crowds can cause unanticipated problems, and even smaller crowds raise issues. Issues that should be include:

- Managing the crowd
- Security
- Regulating the number of people in line

The table below lists some suggestions to address crowd control issues.

| Crov       | Crowd Control Strategies                            |   |  |
|------------|---|---|--|
| <b>(√)</b> | Issue   | Some Suggestions  |  |
|            | Regulating the number of people in line (the length | Give out a certain amount of numbers each day and tell people who don't get numbers to come back the next day (eligibility workers should |  |

| Crov       | Crowd Control Strategies |   |  |
|------------|--------------------------|---|--|
| <b>(√)</b> | Issue                    | Some Suggestions  |  |
|            | of the wait)             | be able to see 6 applicants an hour).   |  |
|            |                          | Toward the end of the day, cut off the line for new-comers (security at the entrance, block off parking lot, put security officer at end of line.   |  |
|            |                          | Post signs at certain places in the line estimating the wait from that point and listing hours and days of operation.   |  |
|            |                          | Issue public service announcements suggesting that applicants come later in the day, later in the application period, come to another location, etc.  |  |
|            |                          | Have volunteers screen for basic requirements (residence in area, ID, etc.) in line to reduce the risk of many people waiting who are not eligible.   |  |
|            |                          | Direct applicants with special needs (e.g. elderly/disabled, non-English speaking, on-going participants) to appropriate lines for special handling.  |  |
|            | Managing the crowd       | Use ropes, barriers, or the facility's features to direct the crowd.  Manage a long queue at a compact site with a zigzag queue, formed with ropes or other movable barriers.   |  |
|            |                          | Post directional signs (e.g. IN/OUT, "Wait Here Until Number is Called").   |  |
|            |                          | Use bullhorns or public address system to instruct/inform crowd. Use prerecorded, looped informational messages in multiple languages to inform the crowd about the application process, what will be needed, and the various areas located at the site.  |  |
|            |                          | Arrange for the queue to move from one station/event to another to give clients to feel a sense of progress and reduce their anxiety.  Post signs at intervals throughout the queue to alert clients to the estimated wait time from that point and to inform new arrivals of the queue's starting point. Combined, these will calm those with a long |  |
|            | Security                 | wait and discourage people from "cutting" in line.  Give out numbers to reduce risk of arguments over someone's place in  |  |
|            |                          | line.  Have planty of security officers present and visible   |  |
|            |                          | Have plenty of security officers present and visible.   |  |
|            |                          | Keep SNAP benefit instruments out of sight of the crowd.  |  |

# 4.9 Staffing the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Application/Issuance Site

County DSS staff in affected and non-affected areas may serve as certification workers to take applications and determine eligibility. Bilingual workers should be available to conduct interviews with non-English speaking applicants where there is such a need. Other DSS workers may perform issuance functions, applicant screening and other administrative functions as necessary. Volunteer workers may be found through churches, community organizations and local ethnic groups and can conduct human comfort functions such as:

- Assisting the elderly and disabled
- Helping applicants in line (spotting language and other barriers)
- Passing out fliers and answering questions
- Translating/interpreting functions and
- Application assistance.

Medical volunteers can provide human comfort functions, minor medical treatment and assist with the elderly and disabled. Medical volunteers may be found through Red Cross, hospitals, health care organizations and public health offices.



# Chapter 5 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Certification Process

Applications for the DSNAP can be filed and processed only during the disaster authorization period designated by USDA-FNS. To apply, the household must file a DSNAP application, be interviewed and provide limited verification. The staff processing DSNAP applications must act promptly on all applications and will provide benefits immediately or within 3 days of approval.

In the event communications (phone lines and/or data lines) are not functional in the disaster area, DSNAP applications will be taken, on a predetermined schedule, to a site where communications with the SCDSS mainframe is available. This will serve to reduce/identify duplicate participation, forecast inventory needs and provide other reporting and reconciliation information.

# 5.1 Training

The Division of Family Assistance will provide ongoing training to all relevant county and State staff annually, on disaster eligibility, application, and issuance procedures. County or local eligibility staff that will work in the DSNAP site will be given introductory or refresher training by the Division of Family Assistance before beginning work at DSNAP sites. The following will be addressed in DSNAP training.

| Training Content  |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Content   | Section Reference |
| Overview of the DSNAP certification process   |                   |
| Roles and responsibilities for each position (screener, eligibility worker, supervisor, etc.) and lines of supervision  |                   |
| Eligibility, including:  • Eligibility criteria  • Calculating eligibility  • Approved DSNAP waivers that affect eligibility  Verification requirements and acceptable documentation  |                   |
| Applicant applications and other forms  |                   |
| <ul> <li>Issuance of Benefits, including:</li> <li>Use of allotment tables, if applicable</li> <li>Any onsite card/PIN issuance activities, if applicable</li> <li>Client training on card usage, lost card replacement, PIN changes, etc.</li> </ul> |                   |
| Use of automated application entry process in the South<br>Carolina Emergency Disaster System (SEDS)  |                   |
| Fraud Prevention, including:  • Formal fraud control measures in place  • Duplicate participation procedures in SEDS  Special procedures for staff applications, including that 100% reviews will be conducted of employee applications               |                   |
| Public information:  • Who is authorized to issue statements to the media   |                   |
| Personnel matters   |                   |
| Communication with disaster victims   |                   |

Each county office should develop a county specific DSNAP Orientation Guide. This will prove extremely helpful to all staff during a disaster operation. A guide or packet can be prepared which includes some or all of the following:

- Maps showing disaster service sites, hotels, airport, etc.)
- Transportation arrangements to and from site(s)
- Identification needed for access to site(s)
- Lines of supervision, time sheets
- List of contacts, their hotels, and phone numbers
- Safety information (e.g., water use, aftershock precautions)

# 5.2 Comparing the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The DSNAP is a *completely* different program from the regular SNAP. The chart below compares the programs.

| Eligibility<br>Element   | Supplemental Nutrition<br>Assistance Program<br>(SNAP) | Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance<br>Program (DSNAP)   |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Disaster Status          | N/A  | One of the following:  Damage to home or self-employment property  Disaster related expenses  Income source disrupted  Inaccessible liquid resources  Food loss   |
| Identity of applicant    | Verified   | Verified  |
| Residency                | <ul><li> Project area</li><li> Verified</li></ul>      | <ul><li>Disaster area</li><li>Verified if possible</li></ul>  |
| Household<br>Composition | As defined in 7 CFR 273.1(a)                           | <ul> <li>Includes members of a household who are living and eating together during the disaster</li> <li>Does NOT include members of the household with whom the applicants are temporarily staying during the disaster.</li> </ul> |
| Benefit amount           | Benefit calculation<br>according to 7 CFR<br>273.10    | Maximum allotment for household size  |
| Alien Status             | Citizenship and alien<br>status is verified            | Citizenship and alien status is NOT Applicable  |

| Eligibility<br>Element     | Supplemental Nutrition<br>Assistance Program<br>(SNAP)   | Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance<br>Program (DSNAP)  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
|                            | Applicant must sign<br>statement under<br>penalty of perjury<br>that information is<br>correct   |  |
| Students                   | As defined in 7 CFR 273.5  | Status is not applicable   |
| Social Security<br>Numbers | Failure to provide SSNs of household members results in disqualification   | Failure to provide SSNs of household members does NOT result in disqualification   |
| Work<br>Requirements       | Yes  | No   |
| Resources                  | <ul> <li>Cannot exceed \$2,000 if there is NOT an elderly household member</li> <li>Cannot exceed \$3,000 if there is an elderly household member</li> <li>Verification is optional</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>No separate resource test</li> <li>Only liquid resources are counted</li> <li>Verified WHERE POSSIBLE</li> </ul>  |
| Income                     | <ul> <li>Special provisions for elderly and handicapped</li> <li>Verified</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Only net (take-home) income expected to be received during the benefit period counted</li> <li>No special provisions for elderly and handicapped</li> <li>Verified WHERE POSSIBLE</li> </ul>  |
| Expenses                   | Deductions include:<br>standard, earned income,<br>excess shelter, dependent<br>care, and medical<br>(elderly/disabled<br>members only).   | <ul> <li>Maximum standard and shelter deductions used</li> <li>Expenses that the household has paid or expects to pay <i>out-of-pocket</i> during the disaster benefit period.</li> <li>If the household has received or anticipates receiving a reimbursement for these expenses during the disaster period, only the net expense is deductible.</li> <li>If the household pays expenses using a credit card and will pay their credit card bill after the disaster benefit period, that expense is not considered</li> </ul> |

| Eligibility<br>Element               | Supplemental Nutrition<br>Assistance Program<br>(SNAP)                      | Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance<br>Program (DSNAP)   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
|                                      |   | out-of-pocket and is not deductible.  |
| Intentional<br>Program<br>Violations | Penalties are 12 months,<br>24 months, and<br>permanent<br>disqualification | <ul> <li>Disqualification status from regular program does<br/>NOT disqualify an applicant from the DSNAP</li> <li>Committing IPV in the DSNAP WILL count<br/>towards disqualification in the regular SNAP</li> </ul> |

# 5.3 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Certification Process

The DSNAP certification process includes four areas:

- 1. Completing the application: Applicants must complete a simple DSNAP application. This is the **Application for Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**, DSS Form 3456. Each applicant is given an application packet that contains:
  - Application for Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Instructions and Penalty Warnings (DSS Form 3461). See attachment entitled .DSNAP Form 3461.
  - The Application for Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSS Form 3456). See attachment entitled *South Carolina Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Application (Form 3456)*.
  - **Food Watch During A Disaster** Brochure (DSS Brochure 3459). See attachment entitled *DSNAP Brochure 3459*.
  - Truth or Consequences Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSS Brochure 3460). See attachment entitled DSNAP Brochure 3460.
- **2. Application screening**: Before the applicant is interviewed, "screeners" can be used to see if the application is complete and if the applicant has required verification
- **3. Interview:** The interview is an official discussion of the household's circumstances designed to quickly process the DSNAP application. The interview area should be set up to protect applicants' privacy to the extent feasible. The interview will be conducted by DSS certification workers.

The certification worker may interview the head of household, spouse, responsible household member or authorized representative. The authorized representative must be designated in writing by the head of household, spouse or another responsible household member to act on behalf of the household in applying for, obtaining or using DSNAP benefits.

All questions on the DSNAP application must be answered and the application signed by the responsible member or authorized representative. All statements must be understood by all parties. In processing the application, verification of eligibility factors must be obtained by examining and documenting any forms, cards, IDs, etc., the applicant may have in his/her possession during the interview. The applicant must be informed of:

- Disposition of the application
- His/her rights and responsibilities
- Certification period
- Ongoing SNAP
- Civil and criminal penalties
- Post-disaster review
- Proper use of DSNAP benefits.

The applicant should be referred to other disaster related programs for assistance, if necessary.

- **4. Certification:** The eligibility worker will process the DSNAP by:
- Completing an application for DSNAP
- Completing a DSNAP application worksheet (this may be combined with the application form). If the application is approved, checking and initialing the "APPROVED" block in the "DISPOSITION" section of the worksheet. The EW will also complete the certification period, household size and allotment.
- Signing and dating the worksheet and
- Retaining a copy of the worksheet and providing the original to the applicant.

The applicant will present the original worksheet for EBT card issuance to staff at the issuance station.

Note: Volunteers can assist with screening, but may not conduct duplicate participation checks. Volunteers cannot perform any interview or certification functions, unless approved by USDA-FNS).

To ensure that applicants are treated consistently:

- All staff, including volunteers, will be trained by state level DSNAP staff on the policies appropriate to their job.
- These training sessions will take place 1-3 days on site prior to the implementation of the DSNAP.
- At least one (depending on the size of the DSNAP certification center) state level DSNAP staff member will be on site in the certification center to provide consistent policy guidance on questions that arise during the disaster operation. A policy "hotline" to state office SNAP staff will be set up to answer policy

questions for issues that cannot be resolved by the DSNAP staff member on site. Measures must be taken at the application/issuance site to ensure the applicants are notified of their right to a fair hearing. Any household denied DSNAP benefits may request a fair hearing. If a household requests a fair hearing, an immediate on-site supervisory review of the case must be conducted and documented.

The supervisory review does NOT replace the fair hearing. If the household wishes to pursue a fair hearing following the supervisory review, a fair hearing request form must be completed and submitted to the Division of Individual and Provider Rights. If a household wants to withdraw its request for a fair hearing, it must do so in writing.

Clients whose circumstances have changed after they filed an application and were denied must reapply for the DSNAP during the application period. Clients *do not* have the right to reopen their denied case in order to have their eligibility recalculated because their personal circumstances have changed during or after the application period.

# 5.4 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Eligibility Criteria

| Household Eligibility Requirements |   |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Requirement                        | The household   |  |  |  |
| Residency                          | <ul> <li>Must have lived in the disaster area at the time of the disaster. The Agency may also choose to extend eligibility to those who worked in the disaster area at the time of the disaster.</li> <li>May be eligible if it is temporarily living outside of the disaster area but within the State at the time of the disaster.</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |
| Purchase Food                      | Must plan on purchasing food during the disaster benefit period.  |  |  |  |
| Adverse Effect                     | <ul> <li>Must have experienced at least one of the following adverse effects:</li> <li>Food damaged by disaster event or spoiled due to power outage</li> <li>Damage to or destruction of the household's home or self-employment business</li> <li>Disaster-related expenses not expected to be reimbursed during the benefit period (e.g., home or business repairs, temporary shelter expenses, evacuation expenses, home/business protection, disaster-related personal injury including funeral expenses)</li> <li>Lost or inaccessible income, including reduction or termination of income, or a delay in receipt of income for a substantial portion of the benefit period Inaccessible liquid resources (e.g., the bank is closed due to the disaster) for a substantial portion of the benefit period.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |

| Household Eligibility Requirements |   |  |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Income and<br>Resource Test        | Total net (take-home) income received during the benefit period, plus accessible liquid resources, minus certain disaster-related expenses (disaster related expenses actually paid or anticipated to be paid out of pocket during the disaster benefit period) shall not exceed the disaster gross income limit.             |  |  |
| Special Cases                      | <ul> <li>An applicant who is staying in a shelter, but not expected to remain there for the entire benefit period, IS eligible for DSNAP benefits.</li> <li>If an applicant for the DSNAP has an application pending for the regular program, then he/she is NOT an on-going recipient for purposes of determining</li> </ul> |  |  |
|                                    | eligibility or amount of disaster benefits.  Ongoing clients who are residents of institutions and otherwise meet the eligibility criteria can receive DSNAP benefits.  |  |  |

When considering DSNAP eligibility for the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) recipients, it is important to distinguish between regular TEFAP distributions and the distribution of commodities to households in a disaster. Under regular TEFAP distributions, households may participate in both TEFAP and the DSNAP or FSP in the same month. However, under a household *disaster* commodity distribution, households cannot receive both DSNAP and disaster commodities.

# 5.5 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Verification

Verification rules are eased during a disaster to reduce administrative burdens and to reflect the reality that households and eligibility workers will not have access to usual verification sources. Some things must be verified, some things should be verified where possible, and others can be verified if questionable. The table below describes the verification requirements:

| Verification               |           |   |  |  |
|----------------------------|-----------|---|--|--|
| Applicant's<br>Information | Status    | Suggested Ways to Verify  |  |  |
| Identity                   | Mandatory | <ul> <li>Photo ID</li> <li>Two documents that verify identity and residency</li> </ul>  |  |  |
|                            |           | A signed affidavit from a collateral contact attesting to<br>the identity of the applicant<br>verification for the head of household for which<br>application is being made as well as for himself/ |  |  |

| Verification   |                 |  |  |
|--|-----------------|--|--|
| Applicant's Information                                  | Status          | Suggested Ways to Verify   |  |
|  |                 | herself.   |  |
|  |                 | NOTE: An authorized representative must provide identity.  |  |
| Residency  | Where Possible  | Utility bills, tax bills, insurance policies, driver's licenses, other ID with address, bills, or other documents that establish the applicant's home or work address.   |  |
| Household Composition                                    | If questionable | After taking the application, the EW can ask applicant to orally list the names, ages, and birthdays of all household members.   |  |
| Loss or inaccessibility of liquid resources or of income | Where possible  | Obtain a list of banks that were closed due to the disaster and compare with damage maps. Remember that in this day of ATM cards and electronic transmission, few liquid resources are truly inaccessible.  Check with the State Banking Commission. |  |
| Food Loss  | If questionable | <ul> <li>See if residence is within the most seriously damaged areas.</li> <li>Check with the power company.</li> <li>NOTE: A power outage lasting over 4 hours can cause</li> </ul>   |  |
|  |                 | food spoilage.   |  |

# 5.6 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Income and Resource Tests

A household must meet the income and resource test to qualify for the DSNAP. The household's net (take-home) income received (or expected to be received) during the benefit period plus its accessible liquid resources minus a deduction for disaster-related expenses (disaster related expenses paid or anticipated to be paid out of pocket during the disaster benefit period) shall not exceed the disaster gross income limit. The following are the definitions of terms related to the income and resource tests.

| Definitions of Terms           |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Term                           | Definition   |  |  |
| Accessible Liquid<br>Resources | • Includes cash on hand, and funds in accessible checking and saving accounts.  It does NOT include IRA accounts, disaster insurance payments, or disaster assistance received or expected to be received during the benefit period, and |  |  |

| Definitions of Terms                          |  |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| Term  | Definition   |   |  |  |
|   | payments from Federal, state or local government agencies or disaster assistance organizations. This includes disaster-related Unemployment Compensation.  |   |  |  |
| Income  | The total net (take-home) pay of household members. Includes the wages a household actually receives after taxes and all other payroll withholding, public assistance payments or other unearned income, and a net self-employment income.                   |   |  |  |
| Inaccessible Liquid<br>Resources or<br>Income | <ul> <li>Inaccessible liquid resources (e.g., the bank is closed due to the disaster) for a substantial portion of the benefit period.</li> <li>Delay in receipt of income for a substantial portion of the benefit period</li> </ul>                        |   |  |  |
| Disaster Gross<br>Income Limit                | The maximum gross income limit for the DSNAP equals the sum of the maximum monthly net income limit PLUS the maximum standard income deduction amount and the shelter expense deduction.   |   |  |  |
| Deductible<br>Disaster-related<br>Expenses    | • Expenses that the household has paid or expects to pay during the disaster benefit period, however,  If the household receives or anticipates receiving a reimbursement for these expenses during the disaster period, only the net expense is deductible. |   |  |  |
| Disaster Benefit<br>Period                    | The period for which disaster benefits are issued (usually 30 days). The benefit period begins on the date of the disaster or the date of any mandatory evacuation preceding the disaster.   |   |  |  |
| Maximum Disaster<br>Benefit                   | An allotment equal to the maximum monthly allotment established for the regular SNAP for the appropriate household size.   |   |  |  |
|   | If   | Then  |  |  |
|   | A disaster-affected household is certified under the regular SNAP  | The allotment equals the household's regular monthly allotment PLUS a supplement to bring the household's disaster benefit up to the maximum SNAP allotment for the household size. |  |  |
|   | A disaster-affected household was participating in the regular SNAP prior to the start of the DSNAP, received a replacement allotment and was later determined eligible for disaster benefits  | The household would receive only a supplement to bring its allotment up to the maximum SNAP allotment for the appropriate household size.   |  |  |
| Shelter Expense<br>Deduction                  | The maximum excess shelter expense deduction from the regular SNAP.  |   |  |  |

# 5.7 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Benefit Calculation

To determine the household's total countable income, add together the following types of income if the household has received or expects to receive them during the disaster period:

- Take home pay
- Assistance payments
- Unearned income
- Self-employment income (deduct personal income taxes, social security taxes and costs of producing income)
- Cash on hand (do not count income already counted above)
- Accessible savings and checking account balances
- Accessible stocks and bonds
- Charitable cash contributions.

Allowable disaster related expenses are those the household has paid or expects to pay during the disaster benefit period and for which the household has not received or does not expect to receive reimbursement during the disaster period. Only payments for the following expenses are allowable:

- To repair damage to home
- To repair property essential to employment and self-employment
- For temporary shelter if the home is uninhabitable or inaccessible
- To move out of an evacuated area
- To protect property from disaster damage
- For medical expenses for disaster related injury to a household member when the disaster struck
- For funeral or burial expenses due to disaster related death of a household member when the disaster struck.

Determine the total amount of countable income expected to be received during the disaster benefit period to include the total amount of accessible cash. Deduct the total disaster related expenses paid/expected to be paid during the disaster benefit period. Compare the remaining countable income to the maximum income limit for the household size. If countable income is less than or equal to this limit, the household is eligible.

The DSNAP allotment is determined from the Eligibility Limits and Allotments Table supplied by FNS. Households normally receive full monthly allotment for their household size. If the disaster benefit period is designated to be for only a half month, income and expense calculations will be based on this half month period. Disaster benefit allotments would also be issued based on a half month entitlement.

Certification periods for eligible households coincide with the disaster benefit period as declared by FNS. Applicant households must be notified of the disposition of their applications. This is usually accomplished at the time of application. If a household is determined eligible for a DSAP benefit, the EW must:

- Check and initial the "APPROVED" block in the "DISPOSITION" section of the DSNAP application
- Sign and date the DSNAP application
- Notify the household of the benefit amount and the certification period
- Retain a copy of the application and provide the original to the household and
- Direct the household to the issuance site.

# 5.8 Transitioning to the Regular Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Households which are issued DSNAP benefits and subsequently apply for and are determined eligible as new participants under the regular SNAP shall have their DSNAP benefits applied against their regular FS benefits if the two certification periods overlap. To calculate the regular FS benefits, the following procedures must be utilized:

- 1. Determine the number of days which overlap in the certification periods.
- 2. Prorate DSNAP over the number of days in the disaster benefit period to determine DSNAP per day.
  - 3. Determine the amount of regular SNAP benefits to be issued and
- 4. Subtract the amount of DSNAP benefits for the overlapping days from the regular SNAP benefits for the month.

# 5.9 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Federal Reporting Requirements

The following statistics regarding DSNAP certification activities must be reported to FNS and the Director of Disaster Relief daily during the disaster authorization period. The application/issuance site shall prepare a daily report. If nothing different is specified in the memorandum from USDA-FNS approving the DSNAP request, the daily report shall contain:

- Number of households approved new & on-going (supplements)
- Number of persons approved new & on-going (supplements)
- Value of benefits approved new & on-going (supplements)
- Average benefit per household
- Average benefit per household
- Number of households denied



# Chapter 6 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Issuance/ EBT

## **6.1 Disaster Services Processes**

South Carolina support services are intended to provide the states with the ability to swiftly respond to disaster or other similar events that require a temporary or expedited issuance of DSNAP benefits.

## **6.2 DSNAP Benefit Issuance**

The SCEBT Office will be responsible for coordinating the following:

- Once the disaster has been declared, the SCEBT office will order all disaster EBT cards in sufficient numbers to meet estimated needs.
- Perform card file processing and inputting batches into the State Emergency Disaster System (SEDS)
- Disaster EBT Card security (bulk inventory)
- Disaster EBT Card
- Disaster EBT Card reconciliation
- Monitoring disaster sites and providing assistance as needed
- Liaison with EBT contractor
- Technical assistance
- Assistance in retailer contact/availability
- Coordination with Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)

# 63 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP)

If the State enacts the DSNAP Program, individuals needing assistance will be screened to determine whether or not they are regular Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants.

If the CHIP system is available, the worker should inquire in CHIP to verify participation, by checking HOSU (Household Summary) and FSIH (Food Stamp Issuance History). If the CHIP system is not available, a listing of regular SNAP cases can be provided.

If the applicant is a regular SNAP participant, he/she will be directed to the appropriate area for assistance. A regular SNAP applicant will be authorized for benefits replacement based on the state's waivers in place at the time of the disaster. If no waivers address this, a replacement benefit in CHIP can be authorized through FSRE in an amount not to exceed the amount authorized previously for that month will be processed.

If the applicant is not a regular SNAP participant, he/she will be instructed to fill out a disaster application. Once the application is completed, the client will be asked to go to the next station for eligibility determination. If the application is approved, the client will be given a copy of the application and instructed to go to the card issuance station. The card issuer will review the application for general correctness and affix a bar code label from the card manifest to the application. The client is then issued the card matching the bar code label. The client shall be instructed to sign the card manifest to the right of the proper card/bar code listing. The processed applications are held until pick-up for data entry. The application **shall not** be given back to the client at this point.

Once the application is keyed into the disaster system, and no error(s) are noted, benefits will be loaded into the client's EBT account during batch processing performed periodically during each day. (See <a href="section 6.11.1">section 6.11.1</a>) The card is automatically activated once the application is keyed and benefits are posted to the household's account. The client/head of household will be pre-assigned a Personal Identification Number (PIN). The PIN will be the client's 2-digit birth month and 2-digit birth day recognized in the contractor's system. For instance, a client's birthday is July 4. The pre-assigned PIN is 0704. The PIN can be changed if desired by calling the toll-free Customer Services Helpline number shown on the card and simply following the automated instructions. If an application is not approved for benefit eligibility, the case is denied and no card is issued. After collection from the application station, these applications will also be keyed for statistical reporting reasons.

# 6.4 EBT Card Needs Assessment and Delivery

During the planning of DSNAP benefit issuance (immediately after the disaster occurs), applicable program managers, County Directors or designees will communicate with the SCEBT Office and provide an estimation of the disaster caseload and approximately how many households in each issuance site are forecast on a daily basis during the disaster issuance period. These estimations will be used to forecast EBT card inventory needs in each county. EBT cards will be packaged in groups of three-hundred (300) cards per box.

Each box will be accompanied by an appropriate Disaster EBT Card Manifest and information brochures.

# **6.5 EBT Card Security and Control**

All disaster EBT cards issued to disaster sites shall be retained under lock and key when not being issued. This pertains to both SCEBT bulk inventory and issuance sites working inventories. Access to disaster site inventories shall be limited to the card issuance coordinator and one additional person. Card inventory and card issuance shall be closely monitored and controlled by a designee of the County Director.

# 6.6 Reconciliation/Security and Control Procedures-EBT Issuance

At all disaster issuance sites, the following Disaster EBT card reconciliation procedures will be followed:

- Disaster EBT cards will be delivered from the card production site to the disaster issuance sites via entities providing secure transportation. All transferred cards will be in the form of sealed cartons and each transfer will be accompanied by Disaster EBT Card Manifest inside the carton(s). Upon delivery, a representative at the disaster issuance site will confirm the receipt on a separate receipt confirmation form. A copy of the receipt confirmation will be given to the disaster issuance site representative and the original of the confirmation will be returned to the SCEBT office.
- As cards are issued, the issuance staff at the disaster site will have the client sign the card manifest in the signature line.
- At the end of the issuance day, the disaster EBT card inventories remaining at the issuance site will be inventoried (physically counted) and returned to a secure site.

For reconciliation purposes, the card issuance count for the day (based on number to number) will be matched to numbers of signatures in the manifest.

• All inventories of disaster EBT cards shall be kept under lock and key with access limited to the person or persons assigned to maintain and issue cards. Daily reconciliations must be conducted to detect misappropriation or misuse of unissued cards. Should this security be compromised or unexplained loses occur, the person in charge shall immediately contact the County Director and the SCEBT Office. All cards that are lost, stolen or otherwise unaccounted for shall be immediately system destroyed by going to the Card Destruction tab in SEDS.

• During the card issuance process, clients shall be instructed on the pre-assigned PIN, the toll free client help line number, the PIN change process, and reporting lost/damaged/stolen cards.

# **6.7 Disaster Site Reporting**

Disaster card receipt and issuance will be captured in SEDS. On a daily basis if applicable, the EBT Site Supervisors and/or designees, as well as the SCEBT Office, shall confirm the following SEDS data:

SCEBT Office – Batches reconciliation only Disaster Site – Both batch and card reconciliation

# **6.7.1** SCEBT Office daily reconciliation data:

- Beginning Inventory (No. Batches X 300)
- Cards Received from Vendor (+)
- Cards Returned by Disaster Sites (+)
- Cards Assigned to Disaster Sites (-)
- Cards Destroyed (-)
- Ending Inventory

## **6.7.2** Disaster Site daily reconciliation data:

- Beginning Inventory
- Cards Received from State Office (+)
- Cards Issued (-)
- Cards Destroyed (-)
- Cards Returned to State Office (-)
- Ending Inventory

For audit and review purposes, "Select Date" functionality should remain in SEDS to retrieve historical reconciliation information

# 6.8 State Responsibilities Regarding Food Retailer Availability

Immediately prior to the pending disaster, SCEBT staff will direct the SCEBT Contractor to implement disaster preparedness procedures. These include:

- Determining retailers in affected areas that will be operational during the disaster period.
- Stockpiling supplies of replacement retailer equipment in the potential affected areas.
- Reviewing with retailers the number of manual vouchers on hand and supplementing supplies as needed.
- Stockpiling manual sales drafts (MSD). This includes contacting retailers to determine the approximately number of MSD's needed.

Once the disaster takes place, the SCEBT Office, in coordination with the SCEBT Contractor, will assess the online capability of all retailers in the affected area(s). This includes both Point-of-Sale (POS) devices and phone line communication. This will be accomplished either by on-site assessments or actual determination by automated means

(phone call or system testing). If applicable, retailers shall also provide the number of MSD's on hand and an estimated number needed. SCEBT staff, SCEBT Contractor staff, and retail corporate level staff shall make all retailer assessments in the cases of major chain stores.

The SCEBT Contractor has the capability of identifying, by automated means, the on-line capability of retailers in the affected area(s). SCEBT and SCEBT Contractor staff will coordinate the efforts of determining which retail stores are actually open for business.

# 6.9 POS Operations and Manual Sales Drafts

<u>If POS communication exists</u>, transactions would be performed in the usual manner. POS communication assumes that electrical power is available and the communication link from the retailer to the SCEBT Contractor operational.

When POS communication does not exist, but phone communication is operational, all operating retailers would be instructed to use the Manual Sales Draft (MSD) procedure for food purchases. If this is the case, the SCEBT Office will determine the approximate number of eligible households in the affected area(s) and advise the SCEBT Contractor of the number of MSD's to be distributed. Supplies will be drop-shipped depending on delivery services availability.

If delivery services are interrupted, local DSS offices will be supplied for pickup by retailers.

Although the MSD will be the same form used in the normal food purchase situation, at the time these supplies are delivered, the retailer will receive a brief explanation on how the MSD forms are to be accounted for, completed, and processed for payment.

# 6.10 Responsibilities of the SCEBT Office Regarding County Office Operations

## **6.10.1** Operations Capability in Disaster Counties

The SCEBT Office will determine the availability of service operations in the affected county offices. This includes the following:

- Disaster cards under control of the SCEBT Office must reach the county office/disaster site by the time Disaster Supplemental Assistance Program (DSNAP) application processing begins.
- In the event phone communication does not exist, but the CHIP and SEDS is/are
  operational, the SCEBT Office will communicate with the counties through the
  agency electronic E-News system or E- mail.

## 6.10.2 Advising Counties Regarding Retailer Availability

The SCEBT Office will advise the county office as to which retailers in the county or adjacent counties are open for business regardless if they are manual purchase or on-line. The county office will attempt to convey this information to all eligible households.

Local media and/or lists posted at the county offices are two examples of available means to satisfy this requirement. In addition, this information will be provided to the DSS Public Relations Office and to the SCEBT Contractor's Customer Service Hot Line.

# 6.11 JP Morgan Disaster Support Services Overview

## **6.11.1** Systems Support

The State's combinations of systems are designed to support disaster benefit issuance primarily through batch processing.

- **CHIP:** The process will work similar to regular daily file processing for regular Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and therefore will be sent once per day. Disaster benefits will be identified by a unique benefit type with each benefit record (FSDS).
- **SEDS:** The process will work slightly different. The EBT vendor can accept and process (post) benefits to the system every three (3) hours starting at 9:00 AM ET on the first day of issuance.

Note that any files not posted before 6:00 PM ET will most likely be reflected on the next day's settlement/reconciliation. Disaster benefits will be identified by a unique benefit type (FDDS).

• **Both Systems**: There will be no pre-loading or set disaster benefit amount.

Note: All demographics and benefits will be transmitted via batch files. The State will not use the JPMorgan Disaster Screens for disaster Account Setup or for Benefit Add.

## 6.11.2 Disaster EBT Card Production - JPMorgan

The state contracts for the production of disaster cards through the EBT vendor. Disaster vault cards will be used as over-the-counter (OTC) cards by the State staff in disaster benefit issuance sites for the initial issuance of DSNAP benefits to recipients who are deemed eligible. The State will use SEDS system to monitor distribution of the cards to the issuance site(s). These cards will be issued over a period of five (5) days and in large numbers. The JPMorgan EBT System will be updated with the disaster over-the-counter (OTC) card number will be updated as issued on the JPM system as part of the demographic data when South Carolina DSS sends and JPMorgan EFS processes the disaster demographic files.

JPMorgan EFS will create a Disaster vault card production file and send it to Personix (the card vendor), with the following information:

• Cards will contain a "9" in the seventh position of the card number (PAN).

- Cards will contain a "sequence" (serial) number in the PAN and in the last name field (which the State will use for inventory control purposes using card readers).
- The first name field will contain the word "Disaster".
- The last name field will contain the card serial (sequence) number.

JPMorgan EFS will provide a "Disaster Card Inventory File" to the State for input into the State's Disaster Card Inventory System. The file will contain the batch number, serial number, and card number (PAN). All batch, serial and card numbers will be in sequential order.

Initial shipment must be received by the State within two (2) days of the order from State. Cards will be packaged as follows:

- 300 cards **without** activation stickers on them in small, slim box inside a larger box
- 300 regular card carriers no cardholder name/address English/Spanish
- 300 regular pamphlets English/Spanish
- Two (2) manifests with card number, space for recipient's signature, etc. and two (2) labels that have the card number printed and bar coded.

| OX NOMBER          |                      | FART DATE: EN         |                       |     |           |           |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----|-----------|-----------|
| OCATION            |                      |                       |                       |     |           |           |
| SEQUENCE<br>NUMBER | CARD NUMBER          | BAR CODE / PAN NUMBER | BAR CODE / PAN NUMBER | DCF | RECIPIENT | SIGNATURE |
| 001-000001         | 6104708000360503     | 6104708000360503      | 6104708000360503      |     |           |           |
| 001-000002         | 6104708000360511     | 6104708000360511      | 6104708000360511      |     |           |           |
| 001-000003         | 6104708000360529     | 6104708000360529      | 6104708000360529      |     |           |           |
| 001-000004         | 6104708000360537     | 6104708000360537      | 6104708000360537      |     |           |           |
| 001-000005         | 6104708000360545     | 6104708000360545      | 6104708000360545      |     |           |           |
| 001-000006         | 6104708000360552     | 6104708000360552      | 6104708000360552      |     |           | - W       |
| 001-000007         | 6104708000360560     | 6104708000360560      | 6104708000360560      |     |           |           |
| 001-000008         | 6104708000360578     | 6104708000360578      | 6104708000360578      |     |           |           |
| 001-000009         | 6104708000360586     | 6104708000360586      | 6104708000360586      |     |           | .0        |
| 001-000010         | 6104708000360594     | 6104708000360594      | 6104708000360594      |     |           | 8         |
| 001-000011         | 6104708000360602     | 6104708000360602      | 6104708000360602      |     |           |           |
| 001-000012         | 6104708000360610     | 6104708000360610      | 6104708000360610      |     |           |           |
| 001-000013         | 6104708000360628     | 6104708000360628      | 6104708000360628      |     |           |           |
| 001-000014         | 6104708000360636     | 6104708000360636      | 6104708000360636      |     |           |           |
| 001-000015         | 6104708000360644     | 6104708000360644      | 6104708000360644      |     |           |           |
| IGNATURE OF        | VERIFIER/RECEIVER 1_ |                       | _ DATE:               |     |           |           |
| IGNATURE OF        | VERIFIER/RECEIVER 2_ |                       | _ DATE:               |     |           |           |

- Label on outside of large box with box number, batch number, card start and end numbers. (Note: Each box of 300 cards equals one batch.)
- Tamper-proof tape to be used to seal boxes.

## Process for ordering cards:

- Initial quantity of 100,200 vault cards will be produced and stored at JPMorgan. (JPMorgan EFS will create a disaster vault card file for Personix to use in producing the cards.)
- Personix will produce, package, and drop ship the cards to the State (when requested) as per instructions in the order, to the following address:

SC Dept. of Social Services – EBT ATTN: EBT Director 1535 Confederate Avenue – Room 206 Columbia, SC 29201 803-898-7510

- Personix will send shipment notification with carrier information (carrier name, tracking number, etc.) to JPMorgan EFS
- JPMorgan EFS will forward shipment notification to State.
- State will acknowledge receipt of cards and close the order.

JPMorgan EFS will create and send another vault card production file to Personix to replenish stock, on request from the State. As per the contract, "Depending on the nature and depth of the disaster, the State may need additional cards created and provided to the State. The State will provide five (5) days notice to the Contractor if this is expected. Additional cards orders will be in blocks of 10,200 or 34 batches each.

Replacement of the over-the-counter disaster cards will follow BAU (business as usual) procedures like those used for the regular SCEBT expedited cards.

SCEBT Disaster cards will be auto-activated upon receipt and processing of the demographic record.

Over-the-Counter (OTC) cards issued will be sent in the demographic record file every time, including demographic updates.

**Initial PIN** assignment will be the month and day (MMDD) of the recipients' date of birth shown on the JPM EFS file. As with the regular, non-disaster cards issued, the PIN can be changed by the cardholder via the JPMorgan EFS Customer Service IVR Single Call PIN process.

## **6.11.3** Batch File Transmissions

The following are the batch transmission methods that will be used to transmit disaster demographic and benefit files to/from JPMorgan EFS:

- **CHIP:** The State will transmit the disaster files using NDM, via their current Frame Relay setup. (This is the same method used for the existing non-disaster file transmissions.)
- **SEDS:** The State will transmit files, using FTP, via their current Frame Relay setup.

Note: Confirmation of files received and processed by JPMorgan EFS will be available via the "File Processing Status" function in the EBT Web Admin System. Also, after the file(s) have been processed, a return file will be sent back to the State.

## **6.11.4** Disaster Benefit Expungement

South Carolina Disaster Benefits will be expunged at 365 days of benefit purchase inactivity as part of the regular SNAP expungement process.

# 6.11.5 Disaster Benefit Types

- CHIP will issue disaster benefits using the Benefit Type of FSDS in the benefit record
- **SEDS** will issue disaster benefits using the Benefit Type of FDDS n the benefit record.

Note: Both will be treated as federally funded SNAP Benefits and included in ASAP/AMA draw for settlement.

## **6.11.6** Customer Services and Reporting

- Customer Service Representatives (CSRs) will have ability to status disaster cards and refer callers back to local office. There will be no special card cancellation status assigned to disaster cards.
- JPMorgan EFS' Customer Service Platform (CSP) will capture telephony statistics including number of calls, calls to the CSRs and other standard statistics.
- Customer Services will provide reporting of telephony statistics and will not separate disaster-related calls vs. business-as-usual calls.
- Reporting of cases having activity for the month and rolling up into the totals on the Benefit Issuer Report (BIT).

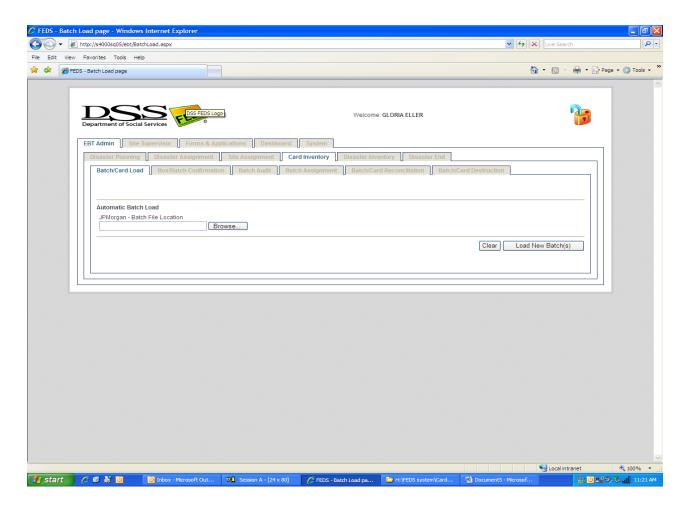
# 6.12 State Emergency Disaster System (SEDS)

## 6.12.1 Card Receipt by SCEBT

Cards are received in the State Office; the number of batches should be manually verified by EBT staff. These batches should be keyed into the SEDS system by utilizing the file

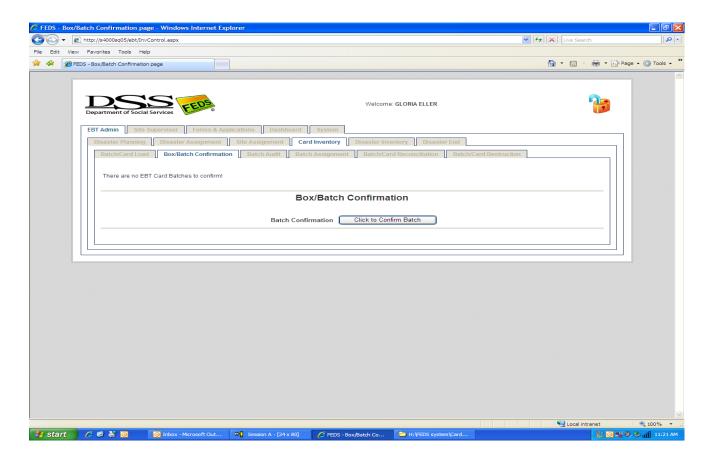
that precedes or accompanies the shipment of cards from JPM. This file is referred to as the Vault Card File.

It will be transmitted from the card vendor. The file will contain a record for each card number and will have the batch number for each of these cards.



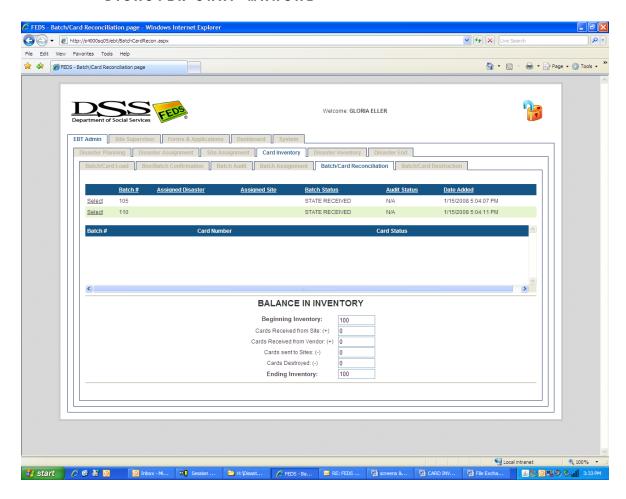
#### **6.12.1.1** Batch Confirmation

SCEBT staff should receive the batches into the State Office with a combination of a manual process and utilizing the SEDS system. The label on each box of cards should be checked to see that the batch number and starting and ending card numbers match a batch (and corresponding starting and ending card numbers) in the list on the "BOX/BATCH CONFIRMATION" screen of SEDS shown below. When the batch is found in the list on this screen and the receipt is confirmed the SCEBT user shall click on "Click to Confirm Batch". This process will assign a status for the batch of cards as "STATE RECEIVED".



## 6.12.1.2 Batch/Card Reconciliation

At this point if the "BATCH/CARD RECONCILIATION" tab is clicked (See following screen), the screen shows all batches of cards as "STATE RECEIVED" and a date/time stamp for the transaction (when marked as "STATE RECEIVED") as shown on the screen below. The "Balance in Inventory" numbers should reflect the number of cards received from the vendor.



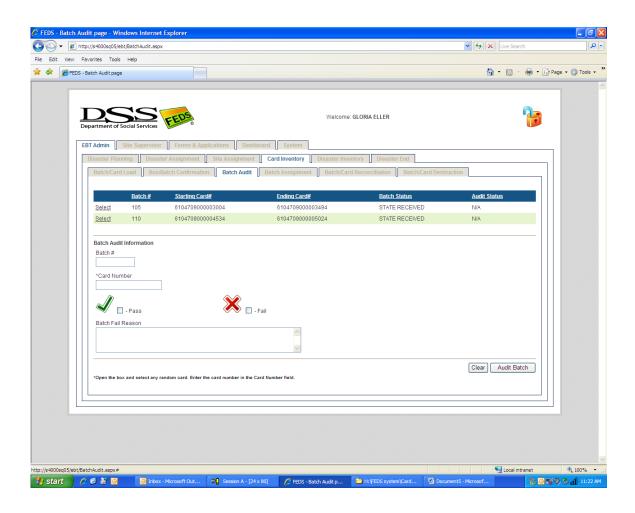
#### **6.12.1.3** Batch Audit

The "BATCH AUDIT" tab on SEDS allows for selecting some number of batches for this purpose. The EBT Staff member would click the "Select" link beside the batch to be audited and click the box "Audit Batch" and would then open the box/batch to check that the starting and ending card numbers of the first and last card in the box match the ones indicated on the box, manifest, and file for the batch.

One card should be selected at random from the box and the card should be swiped through the magnetic stripe reader to ensure that it falls in the range of cards that should be contained in the given box.

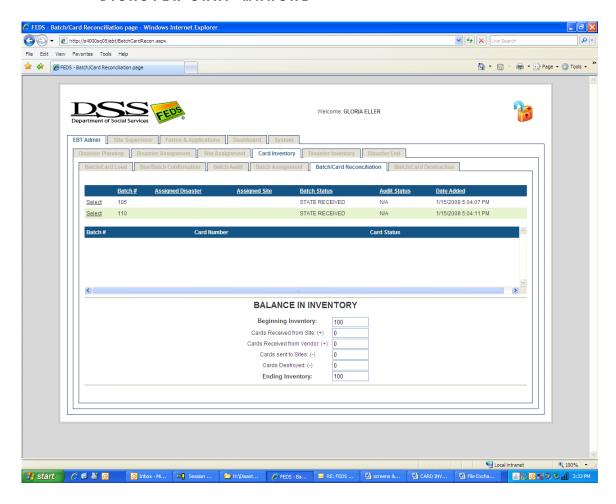
If the box of cards passes the audit, the box beside the word "Pass" [and the green check mark] would be clicked and the box would be resealed for sending out to a site. If the box of cards fails the audit, the box beside the word "Fail" [and the red X] would be clicked and the box with "Batch Fail Reason" should be used to provide free-form comments on the reason the box failed the audit.

• A box failing the audit will prompt an e-mail to the EBT Director for further action. The box should then be resealed for the next step (use, return to vendor, or destruction).



## 6.12.1.4 Batch Status – State Received

To check the batch status after an audit, click on "BATCH/CARD RECONCILIATION" tab. The screen would show all batches of cards as "STATE RECEIVED" and a date/time stamp for the transaction (when marked as "STATE RECEIVED") as shown on the screen below. Any batches of cards that had been audited would show the outcome of the audit under the Audit Status column ("P" for Passed and "F" for Failed). Those batches that had not been audited would show "N/A" in this column.

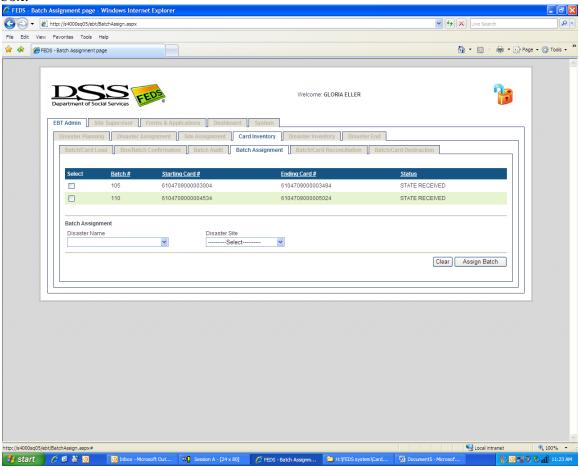


## **6.12.1.5** Batch Assignment

The "BATCH ASSIGNMENT" tab is to be used to link the boxes of cards to the designated Disaster. On this screen, all of the batches of cards that have been received into the State Office, and are available for assignment, will be shown at the top of the screen. Select the batch of cards to assign from the list by clicking the box under the "Select" until an "X" appears in the box. Assigning the batch to the Disaster is accomplished by clicking for the drop-down list for Disaster Name. (The designated Disaster should already be assigned through the "DISASTER ASSIGNMENT" tab). When the name of the designated Disaster is seen in the drop-down list, click it until it appears in the box at "Disaster Name". The batch of cards should also be assigned to a specific site at this time. This is done by clicking for the drop-down list for Disaster Site. [All sites for the disaster should already be assigned through the "SITE"

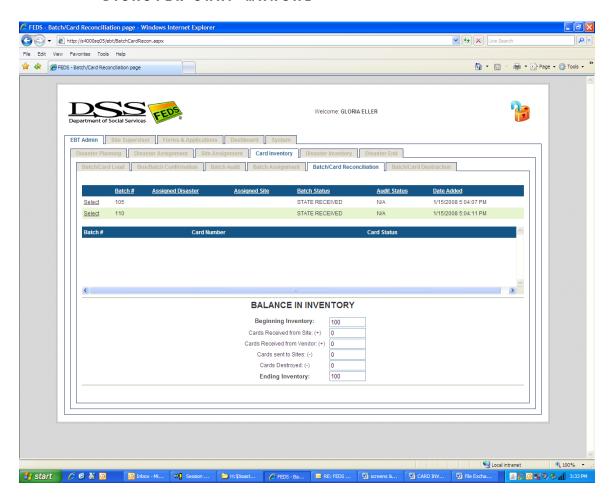
ASSIGNMENT" tab]. When the name of the desired site is seen in the drop-down list, click it until it appears in the box at "Disaster Site". Lastly, click the

"ASSIGN BATCH" box. If at any time a user wants to remove selections, click the "CLEAR" box.



# **6.12.1.6** Site Inventory Balance

At this point if the "BATCH/CARD RECONCILIATION" tab is clicked, the screen would show the batches of cards that were assigned to sites as "SENT TO SITE", the Site Name, and a date/time stamp for the transaction as shown on the screen below. The "BALANCE IN INVENTORY" numbers should reflect the number of cards sent to all sites.



On the Batch/Card Reconciliation screen, batches are listed at the top (just under the tabs) with the headings for batch information in the dark blue bar. If information is needed for the cards within a given batch, the "Select" link to the left of the Batch # should be clicked. The 300 cards of that batch would be listed under the second heading bar (also dark blue). This list of cards is in an area that is scrollable so that each of the cards can have data displayed within the given amount of space.

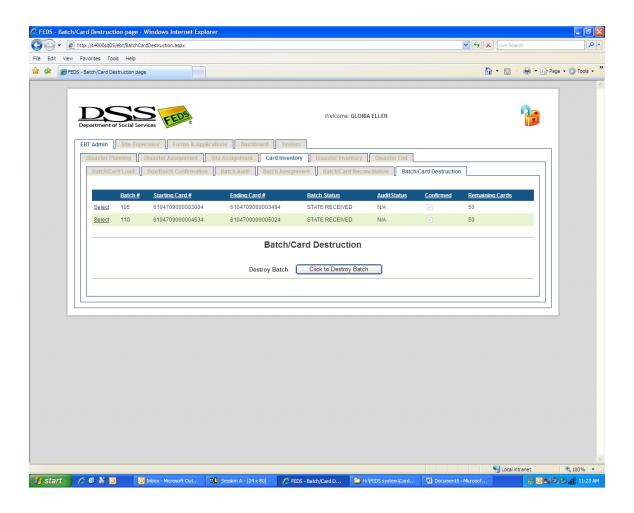
## 6.12.2 Batch/Card Destruction

The Batch/Card Destruction tab is used by the EBT Office (EBT Admin) to "system destroy" card batches. The reasons for destruction include:

- Damaged batches
- Stolen/lost batches
- Expiration of disaster periods

Batches to be destroyed are individually selected by using the "Select" field and clicking on the "Click to Destroy Batch" button.

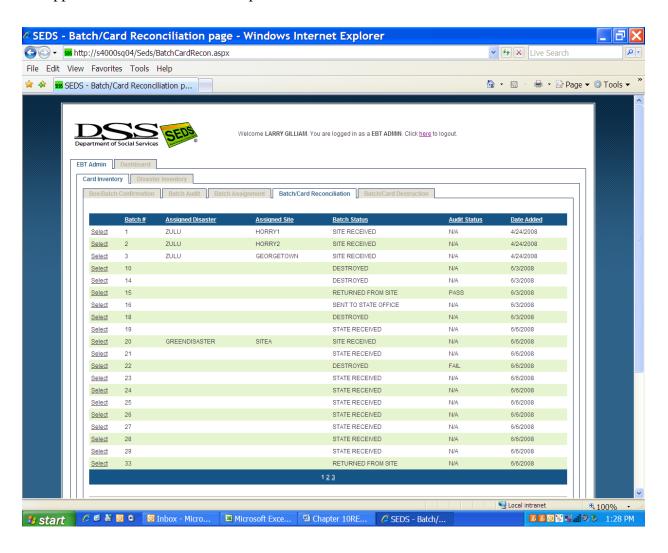
As a safety feature, a "Confirm Destruction Y/N" box will appear before the batch is actually "system destroyed". A "Y" will destroy the batch and an "N" will cancel the request.



#### 6.12.3 SITE SUPERVISOR Tab for CARD INVENTORY

Batch/Box Confirmation tab is used when the assigned individual has the boxes in his/her possession. Click to confirm to assure that the box has been received at the site.

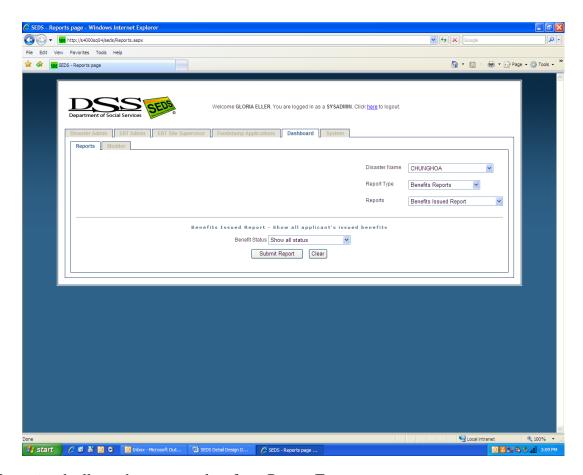
Only the boxes that were assigned to that particular site and that still need to be confirmed appear in the list for the Site Supervisor to click and confirm.



# 6.13 Reporting and Reconciliation

# 6.13.1 The DASHBOARD Tab

The **Dashboard** tab allows users who are given this access to monitor the Disaster EBT process and obtain applicable reports.



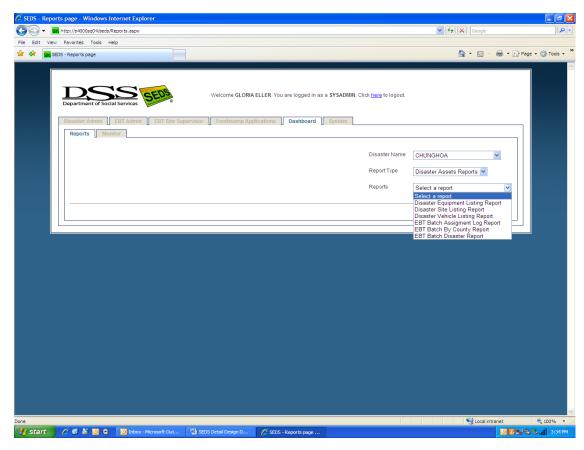
The **Reports** tab allows the user to select from Report Types:

- 1. Benefits Reports
- 2. CHIPS Reports
- 3. Disaster Assets Reports
- 4. Disaster Daily Reports
- 5. Executive Reports
- 6. System Reports.

Some of these are further divided into various selections of reports.

These reports, when submitted, are displayed on the screen. The user can change the size (percent) of the report on the screen to enable the entire width of the report to fit on the screen. The report can be printed by utilizing the "Print" buttons on the screen (to print the entire report or just the current page displayed). Also, there are buttons that allow the report to be exported to other formats (i.e. PDF, Excel, etc.) if desired.

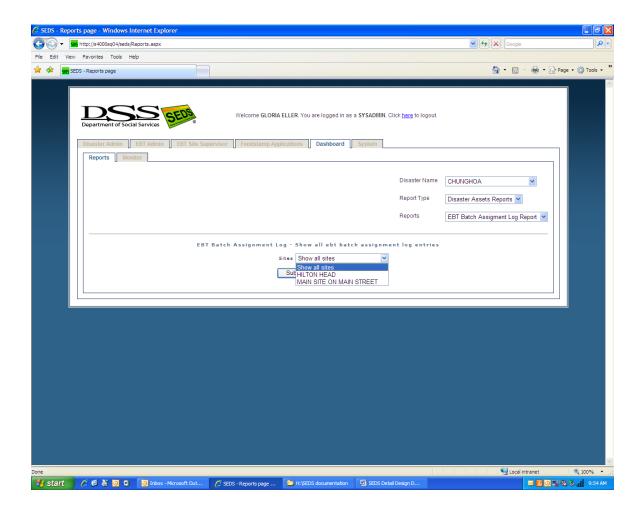
# **6.13.2** Disaster Assets Reports



For **Disaster Assets Reports**, there are six selections possible:

- 1. Disaster Equipment Listing Report,
- 2. Disaster Site Listing Report, Disaster
- 3. Vehicle Listing Report
- 4. EBT Batch Assignment Log Report
- 5. EBT Batch by County Report
- 6. EBT Batch Disaster Report

# 6.13.2.1 EBT Batch Assignment Log Report

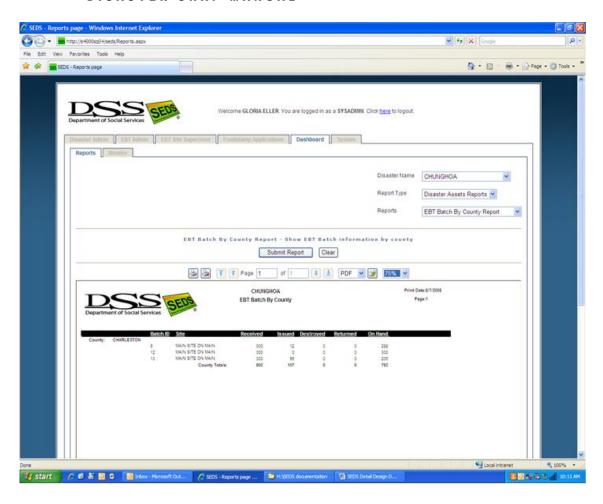


For the EBT Batch Assignment Log Report, the user will select the site for which to have the data written to the report. The "Site" options displayed in the drop-down are the sites that were assigned for this disaster; alternatively, the user can select "show all sites" to display this data for all of the sites.

# 6.13.2.2 EBT Batch By County Report

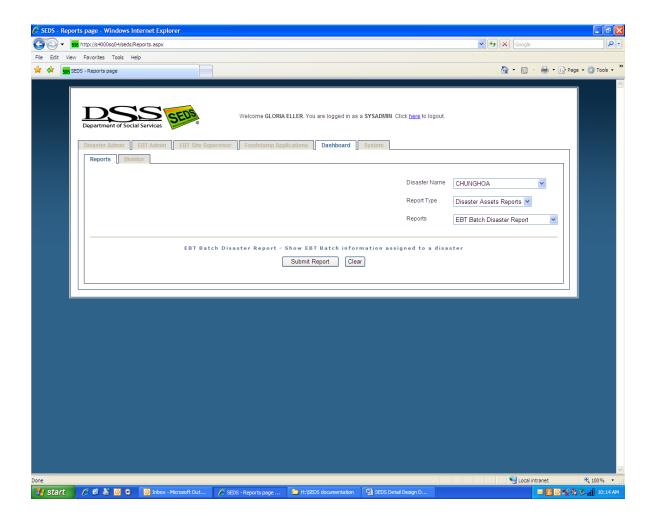


For the EBT Batch By County Report, the statistics for all cards assigned to EBT sites within each county are written to the report when the "Submit Report" button is clicked.

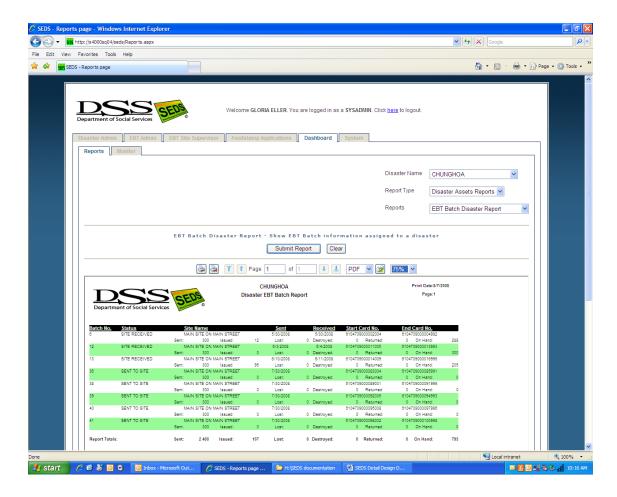


This is the EBT Batch by County Report created for all card batch data.

# 6.13.2.3 EBT Batch Disaster Report



For the **EBT Batch Disaster Report**, the data for all cards sent to EBT sites from the state office are written to the report when the "Submit Report" button is clicked.

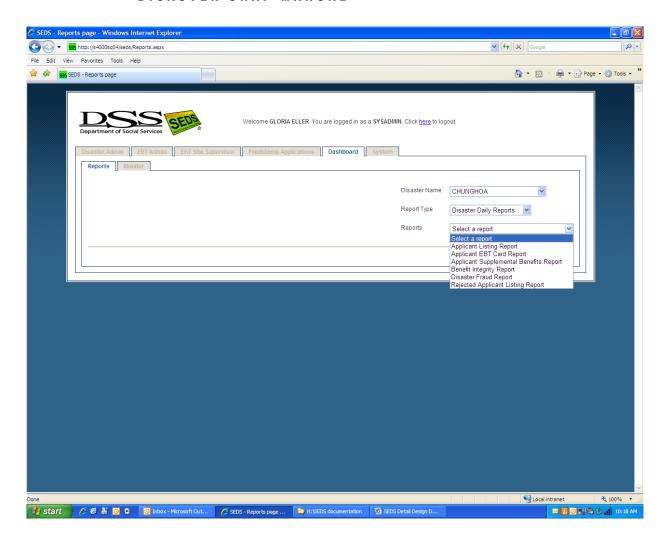


This is the **EBT Batch Disaster Report** created for this disaster's card batch data.

# **6.13.2.4** Disaster Daily Reports

For **Disaster Daily Reports**, there are six selections.

- 1. Applicant Listing Report
- 2. Applicant EBT Card Report
- 3. Applicant Supplemental Benefits Report
- 4. Benefit Integrity Report
- 5. Disaster Fraud Report
- 6. Rejected Applicant Listing Report.



# 6.13.2.5 EBT Batch Listing Report

For the EBT Batch Listing Report, the user can leave the "EBT Batch Status" option at the default "Show all EBT Batches" or can choose from the drop down one of the statuses for which to write the card batch data to the report. These statuses are: "State Received," "Sent To Site," "Site Received," "Returned From Site," "Lost," "Destroyed," or "Sent To State Office".



# **6.14 Disaster Card Reconciliation**

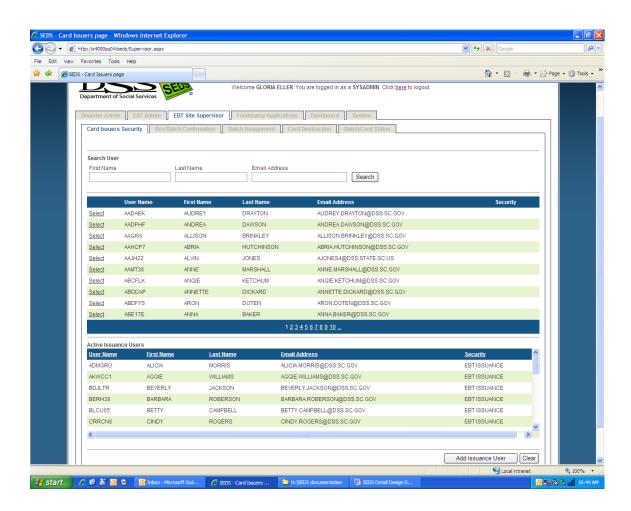
#### 6.14.1 EBT SITE SUPERVISOR Tab

For EBT Site Supervisors, tabs are provided for dealing with the cards and the card issuing personnel in the disaster site. The EBT Site Supervisor tab allows access to the following tabs:

- CARD ISSUERS SECURITY
- BOX/BATCH CONFIRMATION
- BATCH ASSIGNMENT
- CARD DESTRUCTION
- BATCH/CARD STATUS

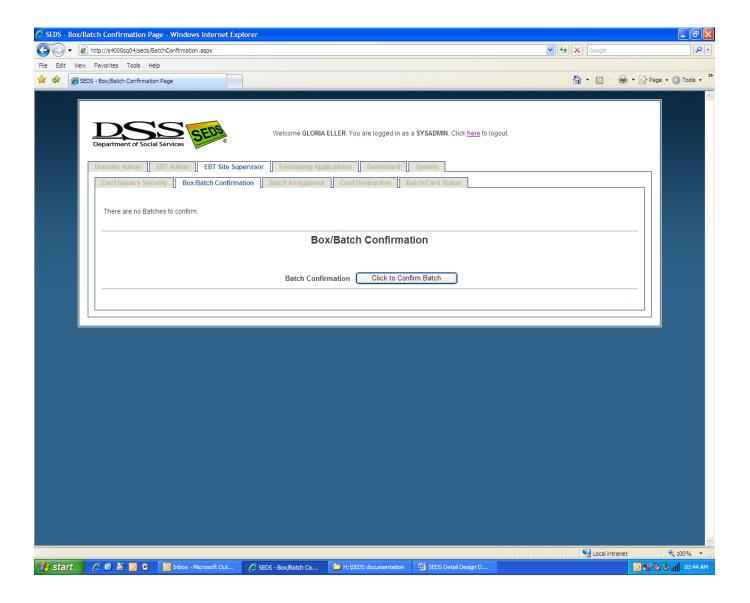
# **6.14.1.1** Card Issuers Security

The **EBT Site Supervisor – Card Issuers Security** screen allows that site's EBT supervisor to select from Active Directory, users that will be assigned as EBT Issuance users for that given site. These EBT Issuance users do not log on to SEDS, but their data is captured as they are then assigned batches of cards.



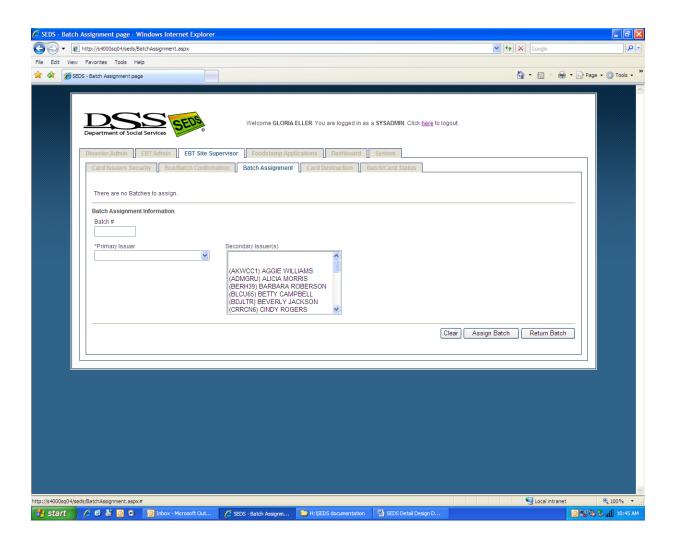
# 6.14.1.2 Box/Batch Confirmation

The **EBT Site Supervisor – Box/Batch Confirmation** screen is utilized by the EBT Site Supervisor to confirm receipt of a batch or multiple batches of cards from the State Office to be used by that particular site for distribution to clients.



## **6.14.1.3** Batch Assignment

The **EBT Site Supervisor – Batch Assignment** screen is utilized by the EBT Site Supervisor to further assign a batch of cards to a primary issuer and possibly to secondary issuers as well. The primary issuer is the person at the site who will be responsible for that batch of cards as they are handed out to clients. Secondary issuer(s) may also be assigned as staff who may also issue cards from that same box.



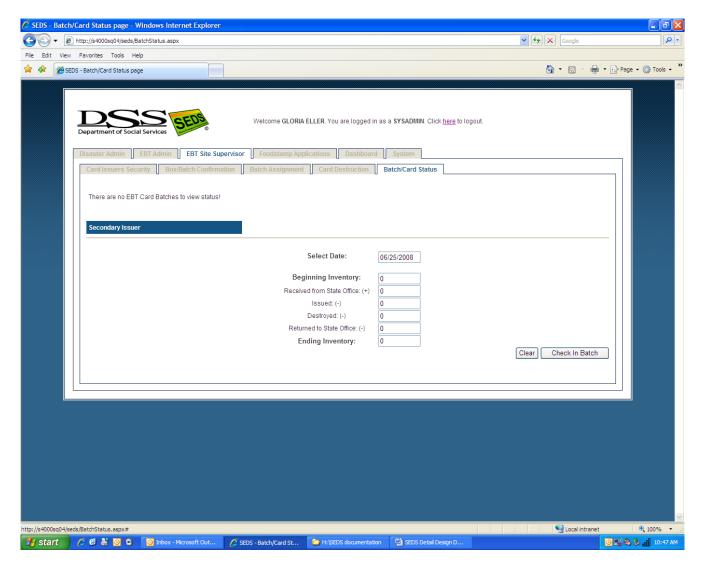
# **6.14.1.4** Card Destruction

The **EBT Site Supervisor – Card Destruction** screen is utilized by the EBT Site Supervisor whenever a card is damaged, missing from inventory or stolen.



#### 6.14.1.5 Batch/Card Status

The **EBT Site Supervisor – Batch/Card Status** screen shows the numbers of cards that have been sent through the site and the current status of those cards.



# 6.14.2 The EBT ADMIN Tab – Card Inventory Sub-Tab

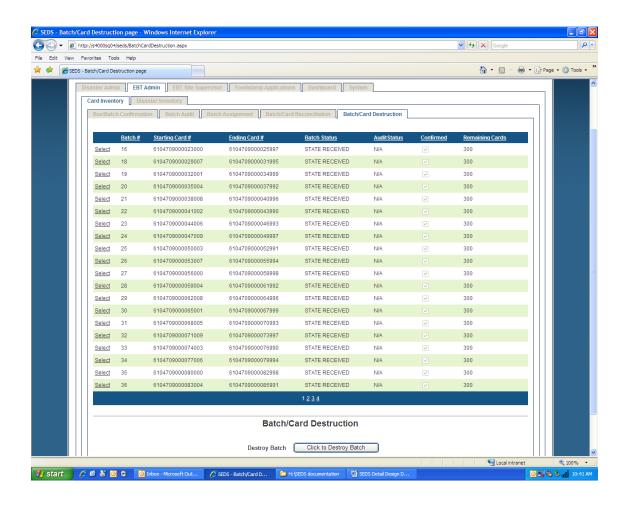
For EBT Admin users, tabs are provided for tracking inventory throughout the Disaster process. The EBT Admin tab allows access to the following tabs:

**CARD INVENTORY** tab is further divided to allow for the following tabs:

- Box/Batch Confirmation
- Batch Audit
- Batch Assignment
- Batch/Card Reconciliation

#### Batch/Card Destruction

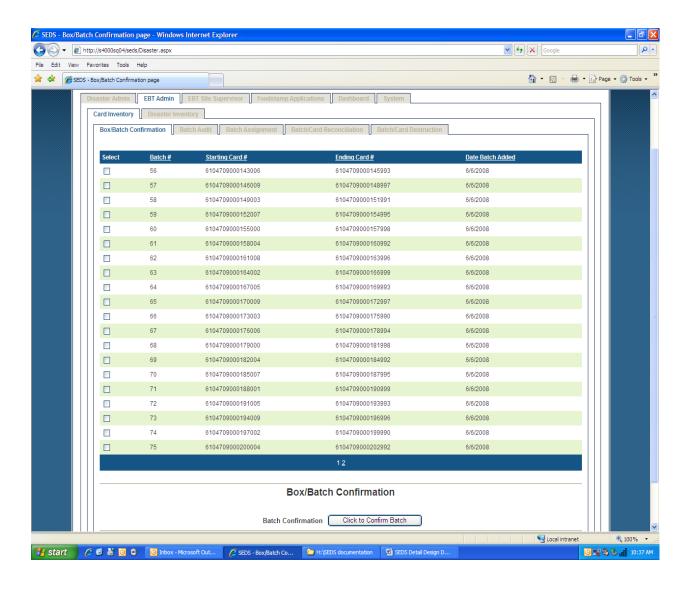
The **EBT Admin - Card Inventory** tab allows for monitoring through SEDS where in the Disaster process the EBT disaster cards are - from receipt of the cards in boxes/batches from JP Morgan at the State Office until benefits are placed on the card by JP Morgan for a client or the card is returned to the State Office at the end of the disaster to be destroyed. This Card Inventory process includes a mechanism to destroy a box of cards to help prevent fraudulent use of the EBT cards.



#### **6.14.2.1** Box/Batch Confirmation

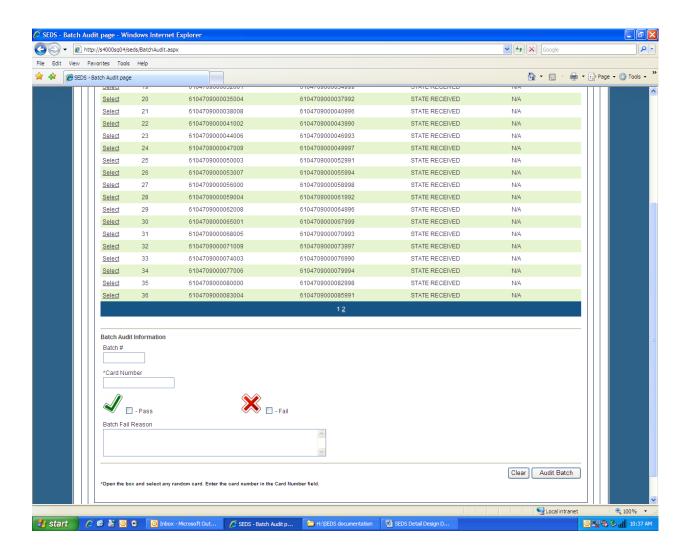
The **Card Inventory - Box/Batch Confirmation** screen displays any boxes of cards that are received in the State Office. These cards may be ones ordered from JP Morgan and delivered to the State Office for distribution to the disaster sites or they may be cards returned at the end of the disaster application period from the sites to the State Office for secure storage or destruction.

For EBT cards to be utilized in the SEDS system they must be confirmed as received in the State Office.



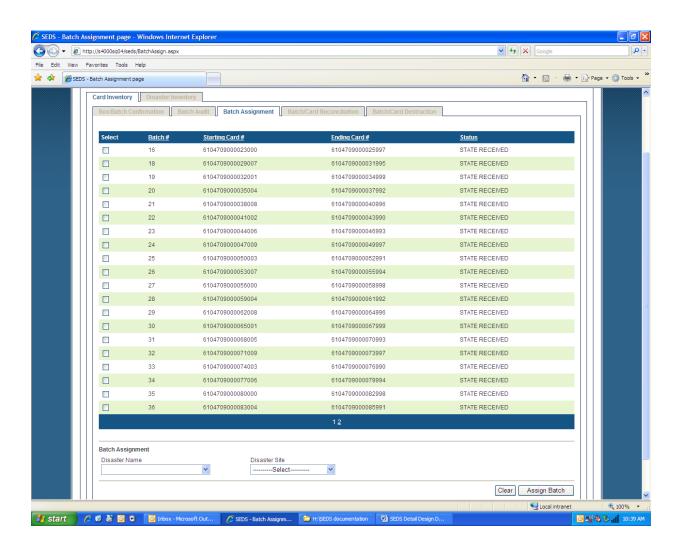
#### **6.14.2.2** Batch Audit

Through use of the **Card Inventory – Batch Audit screen**, SEDS allows for a box of cards to be selected for audit to ensure the quality of the cards to be distributed by the State Office to the EBT disaster sites.



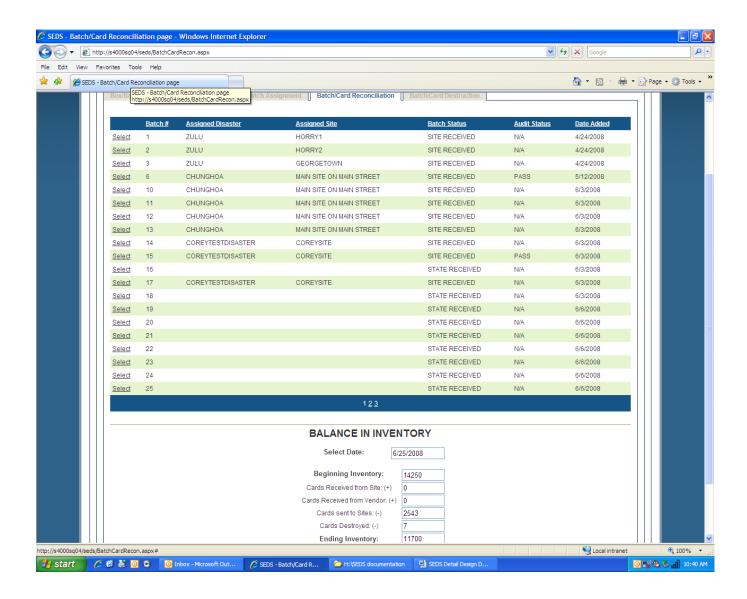
## **6.14.2.3** Batch Assignment

The **Card Inventory - Batch Assignment** screen is provided for EBT Admin users to indicate which boxes of cards are distributed to which disaster EBT site and for which disaster. The full inventory of boxes of cards that are received in the State Office are displayed for selection to be distributed.



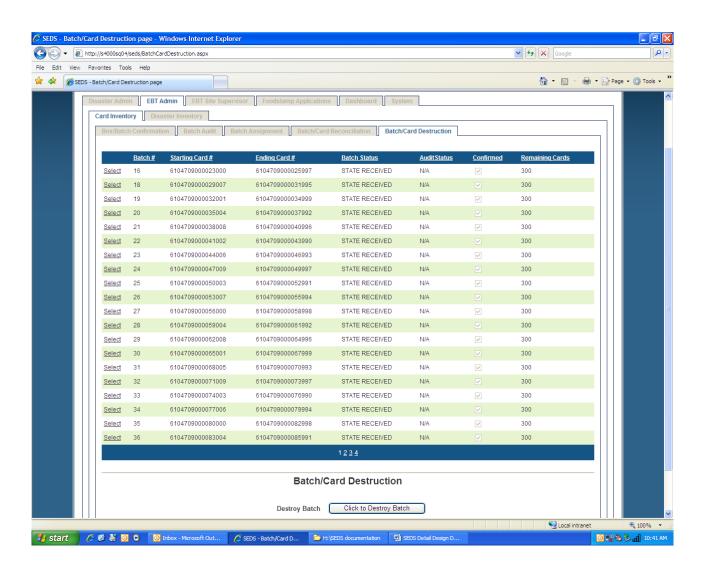
#### 6.14.2.4 Batch/Card Reconciliation

EBT Admin users can utilize the **Card Inventory - Batch/Card Reconciliation** screen to monitor the location and status of a batch/box of cards or by selecting a particular batch, the cards within that box. The Balance in Inventory is provided to track the number of cards in inventory at the State Office.



#### 6.14.2.5 Batch/Card Destruction

The **Card Inventory - Batch/Card Destruction** screen allows for EBT Admin users to destroy a box of cards in SEDS which makes those cards unable to have benefits issued on them. The batches of cards that are displayed and are available for destruction are those that are currently in the State Office.



Chapter

# Chapter 7 Post Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Follow-up

This chapter covers the period following the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) application period.

# 7.1 Closing-out the Application/Issuance Site

State Office, in conjunction with the county office responsible for the delivery of a DSNAP, will complete the activities in the following chart to close out DSNAP application and issuance sites:

| Closing Out Checklist |   |     |  |
|-----------------------|---|-----|--|
| Subject               | Suggestions   | (√) |  |
| Files                 | <ul> <li>Organize applicant files using State's standard practice</li> <li>Include issuance documents in files</li> <li>Review files to determine duplication</li> <li>Determine length to retain files – Federal standard is minimum of 3 years</li> <li>Put files in boxes marked with site and box number</li> </ul> |     |  |
| Issuance Records      | <ul> <li>Reconcile issuance at all sites</li> <li>Put issuance logs and records in boxes marked with site and box number</li> <li>Forward to State office</li> </ul>  |     |  |

| EBT Cards | <ul> <li>Take inventory of EBT cards</li> <li>Return EBT cards to secure storage site</li> </ul>  |  |
|-----------|---|--|
| Equipment | <ul> <li>Take inventory of all equipment (computers, copiers, FAX machines, telephones) and other supplies, and compare with initial inventory</li> <li>Return equipment to lender, as appropriate</li> </ul> |  |
| Staff     | • Complete time sheets for all personnel, including temporary personnel. Records are subject to 3 year retention.   |  |
| Building  | <ul> <li>Clean as much as possible</li> <li>Maintain security until site is emptied</li> </ul>  |  |

# 7.2 Returning to the Regular SNAP

Near the end of the certification period, State Office, in conjunction with the county office responsible for the delivery of a DSNAP, will assess the number of people left to serve and determine whether or not to extend the DSNAP or return to the regular program. In response to most disasters, the DSNAP adequately serves the disaster population. Upon completion of the DSNAP, the State generally will return immediately to the regular program.

After extraordinarily severe disasters, the Agency may need to operate with waivers to the regular program to ease the transition from the DSNAP to the regular program for the Agency and clients. Such situations which might warrant waivers of the regulations governing the regular program following the DSNAP are:

| Post-DFSP Waivers   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Situation   | Example   |  |  |
| There is a large population affected by the disaster that would not qualify for the regular program, but are still in need of assistance. | The State agency could suspend Employment and Training requirements.  |  |  |
| The State agency needs administrative relief. For example, the State has had to displace workers to assist in disaster relief efforts.    | The State agency could apply to extend certification periods to ease the eligibility workers' administrative burdens. |  |  |

# 73 Reports

State Office is responsible for compiling and transmitting the following reports to USDA-FNS in a timely fashion:

#### **FNS-292**

State Office, in conjunction with the county office responsible for the delivery of a DSNAP, will prepare a Report of Food Stamp Benefit and Commodity Distribution for Disaster Relief (FNS-292) within 45 days of the termination of the DSNAP operation. The due date of the FNS-292 will be determined by the circumstances surrounding the disaster. The FNS-292 should contain the following information on DSNAP operations:

- Number of households issued DSNAP benefits (new households)
- Total number of persons assisted (new persons)
- Number of certified persons (ongoing households that received supplements)
- Value of benefits issued (total of benefits to new and ongoing households that received supplements)

The FNS-292 should *not* include the value of any replacements issued, since replacements are from regular SNAP program funds. The value of replacements will be reported on the FNS-388 Monthly Issuance Report.

#### **FNS-388**

State Office will submit the Monthly Issuance Report (FNS-388) which will reflect disaster issuance and participation figures, including replacement benefits.

## **Other Reports**

State Office will submit regularly-submitted issuance and benefit inventory reports which will also reflect disaster issuance.

# **7.4 Restored Benefits**

The Agency will restore to households the amount of SNAP benefits that were lost:

- Due to an agency error
- When a denial of benefits is subsequently reversed

The CHIP System identifies all issuance that are a restored benefit.

# 7.5 Fair Hearings

Any household who applied for DSNAP benefits and were denied benefits may request a fair hearing. Households who never applied for the DSNAP for any reason do not have a right to a fair hearing. This includes households who were unaware of the DSNAP or who were not able to reach the site during the application period. A household which has requested a fair hearing is entitled to an immediate expedited supervisory review which in no way shall interfere with the applicant's right to a fair hearing. If a household wants to withdraw its request for a fair hearing, it may do so verbally or in writing. Verbal withdrawals must be followed up by a written confirmation issued by Individual and Provider Rights of the verbal withdrawal. State Office will report the number of fair hearings on the FNS-366B, Program Activity Statement.

# 7.6 Post-disaster Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Certification Review

State Office will conduct a post-disaster review of DSNAP certification. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Quality Control (SNAP-QC) will select and review a random sample of 0.5 percent of new cases (not ongoing cases that received supplements), up to a maximum of 500 cases with a minimum sample size of 25 cases. SNAP-QC will also review 100% of applications filed by State agency employees participating in the DSNAP. For each sample case, the review must include:

- Reviews of the case file a review the client's application for problems (such as missing or inconsistent information, lack of signature, etc.) and recalculate their eligibility using the information given. Additionally, the review will note any information the client has given on their place of employment at the time of the disaster, which is helpful for both seeking verification of income and for locating the client for their interview.
- An interview with the participant The purposes of the interview are to review the client's statements on their DSNAP application, explore any inconsistencies found through data matching or other sources, and to gather the client's reflections on the quality of the DSNAP service they received. The interview will be a telephone interview for all or any clients. A reasonable attempt to contact the client to schedule the interview will be made, using the resources available in the normal course of business, such as internet searches, data brokering services, credit reporting services, etc. The interview may be conducted at the same time as a scheduled certification interview for the regular SNAP, if the household is now participating in the regular SNAP.

If the client cannot be reached or does not attend the interview, the reviewer should continue to review the case and report the results. The reviewer will exercise due diligence in their attempts to complete these reviews to produce meaningful results.

O Verification of the information in the case file – this review will focus on

identifying clients who failed to report accurately information known to them about their circumstances, such as residency, food loss, income sources, or loss of work, not on clients who could not accurately project their circumstances for the disaster benefit period.

- o Residency: The review will verify that the client lived in the disaster area defined for that DSNAP.
- o Food Loss: If the DSNAP allowed food loss as a sole qualifier for DSNAP eligibility, the review will confirm that the household resided in a geographical area that experienced power outages lasting longer than four hours, experienced flooding, or otherwise was affected by the disaster in a way that would be expected to lead to food loss.
- O Income: Verification of income is intended to hold households accountable for accurately reporting sources of income or work loss that were known to them at the time of the disaster, not to hold households responsible for not being able to accurately predict their future income/employment during the benefit period.

This review will focus on detecting unreported sources of income. The reviewer will perform data matching for each selected case, which will include wage matching with IEVS and SVES (State verification system) and the TALX (The Work Number) to ensure that all known income sources were disclosed.

If the wage match shows that the client was employed in the months prior to the disaster, the reviewer will contact that last known employer and inquire as to whether the client was employed there at the time of the disaster. If the client was employed there at the time of the disaster, the reviewer should inquire as to whether at the time of application, it was reasonable for the client to expect their income to be interrupted due to the disaster. If the employer states that the client should have had no reason to believe that their income should have been interrupted due to the disaster, the reviewer should explore the client's rationale for reporting an expected interruption in income during the client interview. If it appears that the client gave their best prediction of their circumstances, then the reviewer should accept the household's statement of income.

If the client was not employed at that business at the time of the disaster or the employer refuses to cooperate with the reviewer, and attempts to contact the household have been unsuccessful, the reviewer can discontinue attempts to verify the client's income.

If an IEVS/SVES match finds undisclosed unearned income during the benefit period, the reviewer should explore with the client during their interview why they believed that income would be unavailable during the benefit period. Government benefits generally remain available post-disaster; accordingly, there would have to be very unusual circumstances present to support a household's failure to report income from these sources. However, unearned income from private sources, such as alimony, direct child support and contributions, may well be delayed or unavailable. If it appears that the client gave their best prediction of their circumstances, then the reviewer should accept the household's statement of income.

- Disaster-related Expenses: Disaster-related expenses do not need to be verified as
  clients are not required to retain receipts for their disaster-related expenses and
  therefore likely will not be able to verify their expenses.
- A check for duplicate participation
- Data matching, such as wage matching, IEVS, and any other matching the State agency uses to ensure that all income sources were disclosed.
- A re-determination of the participant's eligibility for disaster assistance.

After reviewing the case files, SNAP-QC will conduct an error analysis, which will include the number of cases with problems broken down by:

- DSNAP project area
- the type of household (State employee or general public cases)
- the nature of the problem (client or worker-caused; income or resource related; math error, etc.)
- the number of case reviews that were not complete due to inability to locate the client or client failure to cooperate, and
- the number of cases in which recipient claims were established.

The SNAP Policy Unit will develop corrective action to prevent future occurrences based on the error analysis provided by QC.

# 7.7 Post-disaster Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Application of DSS Employees

Upon termination of the disaster authorization period, Office of Investigation (OI) will review all applications of DSS employees who received DSNAP benefits.

OI will use the Application Review Sheet Relative to Agency Employees Receiving

Disaster Issuances to verify that the following information was correctly reported:

- Name
- Address
- Household members
- Household income
- Household resources.

If the checklist review determines that correct information was reported, OI will take no further action on the case. OI will thoroughly investigate and document the case if review findings indicate one or both of the following occur:

- Incorrect information was reported and/or
- Employee refuses to supply information to OI.

If the investigation results in a determination that a DSS employee received DSNAP benefits erroneously, the errors will be classified according to the following:

- Agency error
- Inadvertent household error
- Intentional Program Violation (IPV).

If DSS made an error in determining the employee eligible for DSNAP benefits, the employee will be required to repay the amount of benefits received incorrectly. If the employee made an inadvertent household error in reporting information on his/her DSNAP application, the employee will be required to repay the amount of benefits received incorrectly.

If a determination is made that any one of the following IPV situations exist, the appointing authority of the employee will implement disciplinary action as appropriate:

- Employee's residence was not in a disaster declared county.
- Employee incorrectly reported the number of household members.
- Employee incorrectly reported household income resulting in issuance error.
- Employee received duplicate disaster issuance.
- Employee made any false statement material to the employee's eligibility of the DFSP or other disaster benefit issued by DSS.

DOI will refer cases classified as IPV, which lack sufficient evidence for prosecution but meet the proof requirements for administrative proceedings, to the employee's appointing authority for review. If the appointing authority agrees with the classification, he/she will contact Human Resource Management (HRM) with a request that appropriate disciplinary action be taken.

In keeping with DSS policy on the handling of suspected criminal cases involving DSS employees, OI will refer cases classified as "Suspected Fraud" to the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) for investigation and referral to prosecution authorities if appropriate. Upon request, OI will provide assistance to SLED in these investigations. OI will notify the appointing authority of the SLED referral and will report the findings of the SLED investigation and the actions of prosecutors to the employee's appointing authority so he/she may coordinate with HRM on disciplinary action.

To ensure that employee DSNAP receivables are handled consistently, confidentially, and in accordance with acceptable accounting procedures, the following collection steps should be taken:

- 1. OI will complete DSS-1158, Accounts Receivable Certification.
- 2. Person collecting money will complete DSS-1111, ensuring that all information is completed as requested
- 3. Receivables must be collected in accordance with SNAP claims policy.
- 4. Collections are promptly deposited in the county's State Treasurer bank account, and receipts are forwarded to the cashier, Financial Services and
- 5. DSNAP receipts and other receipts are not mixed on the DSS-1189C.

# 7.8 Post-disaster Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) Households who received DSNAP Benefits

Each county will be responsible for TEFAP and DSNAP accountability. Each county will process claims resulting from any duplicate or ineligible issuances discovered by the county and as directed by recipient claims policy or the Office of Investigations (OI) following the results of an audit or review of the certification and issuance operations. The process of reviewing/investigating households who received DSNAP benefits is a joint effort involving recipient claims staff, State Office staff and affected county offices. In general, the Agency will follow its procedures for establishing claims found in the SNAP/ TANF Benefit Integrity Manual. Claims shall be established as soon as possible, but no later than six months after the close of the disaster operation.

The Agency will establish claims and issue repayment demand letters for over-issuances which are the result of:

- Intentional Program Violations (IPVs)
- Inadvertent household errors
- Administrative errors
- Post-disaster reviews conducted by SNAP-QC

# Recipient claims staff will:

- 1. Secure computer printouts identifying the following individuals:
  - DSS personnel receiving DSNAP benefits
  - Current SNAP recipients who also received DSNAP benefits
  - Recipients of duplicate issuance based on either/or names, addresses, SSNs, dependents and receipt of DSNAP benefits in more than one county.
- 2. Determine actions taken by the county office in identifying recipients of duplicates and over-issuances by:
  - Ascertaining the status of any claims established by the county
  - Reviewing the DSNAP voluntary returns
  - Ascertaining the status of any recoupments made on county established claims and
  - Reviewing information compiled by county staff.
- 3. Develop a plan to address specific county concerns. Priority for working cases should be:
  - DSS personnel receiving DSNAP benefits
  - Disaster issuances to current recipients
  - Duplicate issuance
  - Complaints/hotline calls
  - Cases identified by disaster certification workers
  - Selected cases for verification of reported information
  - Lost or stolen EBT cards.

Recipient claims staff will take the following actions relative to voluntary returns:

- 1. Work with the county in securing information for the DSNAP Voluntary Returns.
- 2. Obtain copies of DSS-1111 to verify cash returned and
- 3. Trace deposits of cash into the State Treasurer's account.

Recipient claims staff for a disaster declared county has primary responsibility for establishing DSNAP claims. The following steps should be applied:

- 1. Establish a claim file.
- 2. Mail DSS-3444, Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Demand Letters, to current SNAP recipients who received DSNAP and regular benefits during the disaster period.
- 3. Mail DSS-3445, Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Appointment Letters, to all other recipients suspected of receiving benefits to which they were not entitled.
- 4. Conduct recipient interviews.
- 5. Complete DSS-3447, Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Recipient Claim Determination and
- 6. Enter DSNAP claim on CHIP. A special disaster code (DI) must be entered when claim is created on CHIP.

A separate claim file must be maintained for each DSNAP household against whom a claim is established. The file should contain the following:

- 1. Correspondence with the recipient (chronological order with most recent information on top)
- 2. DSS-3446, Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Case Status Sheet (affix to left side of file)
- 3. DSS-3447, Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Recipient Claim Determination
- 4. Application for DSNAP
- 5. DSNAP Worksheet
- 6. Other documentation

- 7. DSS-1648, Administrative Consent Agreement
- 8. DSS-1678, SNAP Repayment Agreement
- 9. DSS-1111, receipt

The following general policies apply if a DSNAP case has been determined to be an overpayment:

- Normal collection procedures should be followed as detailed in the SNAP/TANF Benefit Integrity Manual.
- The claim must be referred to the Claims Collection Unit (CCU) if a person agrees to repay but becomes 90 days delinquent.
- Current recipients may elect allotment reduction as a repayment method.
- All DSS-1111s and FNS-135s related to DSNAP issuance should be designated as such and
- DSNAP claims established and any subsequent collections should be reported on a separate FNS 209 Report, Status of Claims Against Households.

# 7.9 Post-disaster Review Report

The SNAP Policy Unit will provide a report on the post-disaster review to FNS Southeast Regional Office containing the results of the comprehensive review and the individual reviews within 6 months of the close of each DSNAP operation.

The State's DSNAP Plan of Operation will also be updated to reflect lessons learned during the post-disaster review process and reflect, specific to the recent DSNAP:

- A brief description of the DSNAP design, including waivers employed
- Major problems encountered
- Interventions used to solve major problems
- Results of the error analysis
- Information on any claims established



# **Chapter 8 Glossary**

**Actual Income:** Income which is known to have been received or is to be received in a given time period.

**AR:** Authorized Representative

Biweekly: Occurring every two weeks.

**Boarder:** An individual residing in a household and paying a reasonable payment to a head of household for lodging and meals.

**Certification Period:** Period for which benefits are authorized.

**Client History Information Profile (CHIP):** Computer system used by DSS staff to determine eligibility for benefits.

**Depreciation:** A decrease or lessening in price or estimated value.

**Destitute:** A determination applied to migrant or seasonal farm workers which may qualify them for expedited processing.

**Disaster:** Natural disaster such as hurricanes, tornadoes, violent storms, floods, high water, wind-driven water, tidal waves, earthquakes, drought and fires, or man-made disaster such as explosions, fires, riots and nuclear/chemical contamination.

**Disaster Authorization Period:** Period of time during which Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) certification procedures are authorized by Food and Nutrition Service (FNS).

**Disaster Benefit Period:** Length of time corresponding to the portion of the allotment authorized by FNS.

**Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits:** Food benefits distributed to a presidential declared disaster.

**Disaster Relief Agency:** All recognized institutions or associations of persons engaged in charitable activities.

**Disaster Victims:** Those persons who, because of acts of God or man-made disasters and emergencies, are in need of emergency food assistance/commodities.

**Earned Income:** Wages and salaries or commissions received as an employee.

**Elderly:** An individual who is 60 years of age or older.

**Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT):** The method of SNAP issuance in South Carolina in which benefits are electronically deposited into accounts and accessed using a debit card.

Equity Value: Fair market value of a resource minus any indebtedness.

**Expungement:** The removal of the account balance from the EBT accounts from the EBT system.

**Fair Hearing:** Formal appeal process to protect a household's rights to due process of law when an adverse action is proposed or when the household is aggrieved by an action of DSS which affects the household's participation in the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP).

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):** Federal agency designated by the President of the United States to coordinate all federal and state disaster recovery efforts.

**Food and Nutrition Service (FNS):** Federal agency responsible for approving the implementation of DSNAP procedures.

**Fraud:** A false representation of facts by words or conduct, by false or misleading allegations or by concealment of that which should have been disclosed which deceives and is intended to deceive another to obtain benefits.

**Homeless Individual:** An individual who lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence or an individual whose primary residence is one of the following:

- A supervised shelter designed to provide temporary accommodations
- A halfway house or similar institution that provides temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized
- A temporary (90 days or less) accommodation in the residence of another individual
- A place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

**In-kind Income:** Any gain or benefit not in the form of money.

**Inaccessible:** Not attainable.

**Inactive EBT Account:** An account with a balance in which there has been no withdrawal activity within a calendar month.

**Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program:** A federal program that provides funds to meet needs of disaster victims that cannot be met through other forms of disaster assistance.

**Intentional Program Violation (IPV):** Classification of a claim which is the result of the intentional failure of a household member or authorized representative to report correct information or changes properly.

**Jointly Owned:** Owned by more than one individual.

**Judicial Review:** The claimant's right to request relief through the court system if he/she is dissatisfied with the results of the fair hearing.

**Liquid Resources:** Assets that can be readily converted to cash.

**Live-in Attendant:** Individual whose presence in the household is solely for medical, housekeeping, child care or similar reasons and who is not part of the normal household

**Lump Sum:** A nonrecurring or infrequently occurring payment.

**Migrant:** An individual who travels away from home on a regular basis, usually with a group of laborers to seek employment in an agriculturally related activity.

**Misfortune:** Isolated personal disasters such as fire and flooding which destroys or substantially damages food purchased with SNAP benefits.

**Monthly Benefit:** Amount of benefit to which a household is entitled in a given month.

**MSD:** Manual Sales Draft

**NADA:** National Automobile Dealers Association

**Nonrecurring:** Expected to happen only one time. Example: a tax refund is a nonrecurring payment.

**Non-reimbursable:** An expense paid by a household for which the household cannot file a claim or receive any money back. Example: medical bills which are not refunded by an insurance company.

**Personal Effects:** Items essential to daily living such as clothing, furniture and appliances.

**Personal Property:** Items owned by an individual such as boats, vehicles or livestock.

**PI:** Primary Informant (person)

**PIN:** Personal Identification Number

**Policies:** Writings whereby a contract of insurance is made.

POS: Point of Sale

**Pro rata Share:** An individual's proportionate or equal share of income and/or resources.

**Pro-ration:** A method of calculating benefits due to a household based on the application filing date.

**Reimbursement:** Payment by a third party intended to repay expenses incurred by the household.

**Replacement:** SNAP benefits issued as a result of the original issuance being lost or destroyed in a household misfortune.

**Resources:** Cash or other assets that are owned by an individual(s) and can be turned into cash.

**Roomer:** Individual the household furnishes lodging for compensation, but not meals.

**Self-employment Income:** Income earned directly from one's own business, trade or profession.

**Semimonthly:** Occurring two times a month.

**Severance Pay:** Money received by an individual upon termination of employment.

**Shared Living Arrangement:** When more than one household share a residence.

**SSN:** Social Security Number

**State Office:** South Carolina Department of Social Services

**SUA:** Standard Utility Allowance

**Temporary Absence:** Out of the home without benefit of establishing a new residence.

**Temporary Accommodations:** A place to stay for a limited time, 90 days or less.

**Thrifty Food Plan:** The diet required to feed a family of four persons consisting of a man and a woman, age 20 through 50, a child age six through eight and a child age nine through 11, determined in accordance with federal calculations. The cost of such diet shall be the basis for uniform allotments for all households regardless of their actual composition.

**Trafficking:** The buying or selling of SNAP benefits for cash or consideration other than eligible food, or the exchange of firearms, ammunition, explosives or controlled substances for benefit instruments.

**Unearned Income:** Any income that is not earned by a household member through receipt of wages, salary or commissions as an employee.

**Unemployment Compensation Benefits:** Unearned income paid from Employment Security Commission to those eligible individuals because of a job loss or layoff.

Waiver: Relinquishment of a particular right or privilege.

Withdrawal: Voluntary request by an applicant that application for benefits not be processed.

# **Appendix I: DSNAP Manual Revisions**

Vol. 2 9/2009

These changes are effective September 2009

Chapters 1-8 of The DSNAP Manual has been revised to reflect the change from *food stamp* to *SNAP throughout* the entire manual.

Section 1.3 South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) Response in a Disaster. A list of disaster contacts for State and County Offices was added.

<u>Chapter 5 Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP): Certification Process.</u> A sentence was added at the end of the first paragraph.

5.2 Comparing the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (DSNAP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). An expanded definition of the disaster related expenses has been added.

Vol. 3 7/2010

These changes are effective July 2010

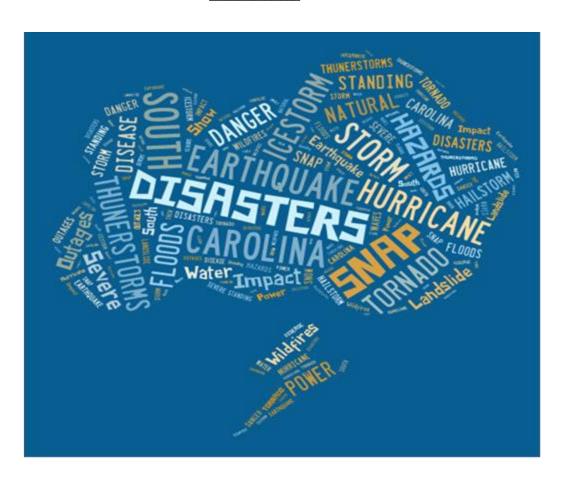
<u>Section 1.3 South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) Response in a Disaster.</u>
The list of disaster contacts for State and County Offices was updated and are shown in red.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

# DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (D-SNAP)

# PREPARATION AND RESPONSE PLAN

|       | COUNTY |
|-------|--------|
| DATE: |        |



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# **South Carolina Department of Social Services**

# Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP)

# Preparation and Response Plan Instructions

- A. **Title Page**: Indicate County name and date
- B. **Preparation**: On top of page indicate County name and date. Nothing else is required in this section. The businesses should be listed on the forms provided in the Appendix.
- C. **Emergency Response Team**: Indicate the names of the Emergency Response Team Leaders
- D. **Staffing Plan:** 
  - a. *Certification Staff, Section A*: Indicate the number of each of the following:
    - i. # of Potential eligible households
      - Average households per county can be found at www. Quickfacts.census.gov. To calculate the # of potential households use the following formula: # of households/ 10%= number of potential households.
    - ii. # of Site managers
    - iii. # of Supervisors
    - iv. # of Certification staff
    - v. # of Benefit Integrity staff for possible back up
  - b. *LEP/SI staff or accommodations, Section B*: Indicate the name of the Client Services Specialist Coordinator. Indicate each of the following:
    - i. # of staff members who are fluent in Spanish
    - ii. Personal Code for County to access Language Line
    - iii. Local Number for the SC School for the Deaf and Blind, if applicable
  - c. *Training Staff, Section A:* Indicate the number of supervisory level staff with training background.

- d. *Staffing for keying and EBT Card issuance, Section D:* Indicate the number for each of the following:
  - i. # of supervisors
  - ii. # of entry operators
  - iii. #of issuance staff
  - iv. #of runners
- e. *Program Integrity, Section E:* Indicate the number of supervisors and benefit integrity staff
- f. Logistical Team Staffing, Section F: Indicate the number of staff
- g. Crowd Control, Section G: Indicate the number of team leaders and staff
- h. *Additional Staffing Assistance, Section H*: Indicate each of the following:
  - i. # of additional projected staffing requirement
  - ii. # of county staff available to participate with program implementation
  - iii. # of staff requested from outside of the local county
  - iv. Name of County

#### **E.** Facility and Operations Plan

- a. Main Site Location, Section A: Indicate each of the following
  - i. Address
  - ii. Describe the setup of the D-SNAP. See page 11 for required information
- b. *Parking Arrangements (Main Site), Section B*: Describe the parking arrangements for staff and clients. See page 11 for required information
- c. *Alternative Site Location, Section C:* Indicate each of the following:
  - i. Address
  - ii. Describe the setup of the D-SNAP. See page 11 for required information.
- d. *Parking Arrangements (Alternative Site), Section D*: Describe the parking arrangements for staff and clients. See page12 for required information.
- e. *Operating Schedule, Section E:* Indicate each of the following
  - i. Hours that applications will be received and processed
  - ii. Staff hours

#### F. Personal Comfort/ Health

a. *Applicants, Section A:* Indicate the location of portable restroom facilitates, if applicable.

#### G. Conclusion

a. Facility Clean Up, Section B: Indicate DSS County name and County name

#### H. Appendix

# Please contact the Director of County Operations in regards to all requests for MOUs or MOAs.

- a. *Hotel Listing(s)*: Indicate the contact information of hotels willing to work with the agency.
- b. *Supplies Listing*: Indicate the contact information of supply providers and the type of equipment supplied.
- c. *Restaurants:* Indicate the contact information of restaurants willing to work with the agency and provide meals during a D-SNAP.
- d. *Emergency Resources:* 
  - i. County Administration: Indicate the contact information for local county administration.
- e. *Law Enforcement Agencies:* Indicate the contact information for local law enforcement agencies including county, city and towns.
- f. *Fire Departments/ Medical Services*: Indicate the contact information for local fire departments and medical providers (hospitals) including city, town and rural providers.
- g. Local Media: Indicate the contact information for Local Media
- h. Other Resources: Indicate each of the following
  - i. Contact information for local American Red Cross
  - ii. Contact information for local Salvation Army
  - iii. Contact information for agencies not previously captured
    - 1. Local shelters
    - 2. Local food banks
    - 3. Etc.
- i. *Damage Assessment Information:* Completed after a disaster has occurred. Indicate each of the following:
  - i. Date completed
  - ii. Time completed
  - iii. Person completing form
  - iv. # or % of private dwellings destroyed or damaged
  - v. # or % of grocery stores closed for business, damaged, etc.
  - vi. Location and expected duration of power outages

- vii. Zip codes of the affected areas detailed in Items 1 and 2 (attach map designating the affected areas)
- viii. Estimated number of households expected to apply for D-SNAP benefits.
  - ix. Attached Media Reports of damage
- j. Work Record for Affected County Employees: Indicate County name and date
  - i. Employee signatures; arrival/departure times; and hours worked will be indicated
- k. Work Record for OUT of COUNTY Employees: Indicate Affected County name and date
  - i. Employee signatures; arrival/departure times; and hours worked will be indicated
- l. Six Month Contact Form: Required every six months. Each county will make semi-annual contact with previously determined providers of services and supplies; and or any additional providers and will submit the updated Six Month Contact Form every January and July to Kaci Herrington-Garrett, D-SNAP Coordinator, via email <a href="mailto:kaci.herrington-garrett@dss.sc.gov">kaci.herrington-garrett@dss.sc.gov</a> with subject line of (County Name, Current Month, Current Year) Six Month Contact Form.

|          |          | (       | COUN  | ГΥ     |      |
|----------|----------|---------|-------|--------|------|
| D-SNAP I | PREPARAT | ION AND | RESP( | ONSE 1 | PLAN |
|          | DATE: _  |         |       |        |      |

**Preparation** – To be reviewed twice a year and initiated before disaster, if possible.

Each County should make contact with the provider of each service or supply listed below at least twice a year. *Six Month Contact Update Form* is included in the Appendix.

Provide a list of vendors willing to work with the Agency in the Appendix.

- A. Hotels
- B. Supplies
  - a. Tent
  - b. Walkie Talkies
  - c. Porta potties
  - d. Office supplies
  - e. Bullhorns
  - f. Water stations
  - g. Tables and chairs
- C. Restaurants
- D. Support Agencies
  - a. Police
  - b. Fire and Rescue
  - c. Emergency

## **Emergency Response Team**

These persons will serve on the Emergency Response Team: they are responsible for planning and execution of functions to ensure that emergency activities are carried out timely and efficiently.

Emergency Response Team Leaders (may combine functions in smaller counties)

| Name | Responsibility              |
|------|-----------------------------|
|      | Logistics                   |
|      | Crowd control               |
|      | D-SNAP Certification        |
|      | D-SNAP Issuance             |
|      | Program Integrity           |
|      | Client Services Coordinator |
|      | Normal ES Operations        |
|      | Normal HS Operations        |
|      |                             |
|      |                             |

#### **Responsibilities Detailed**

#### A. Logistics

- Ensure facilities are set up properly and adequately furnished;
- Ensure ample equipment is available and operable;
- Ensure adequate office supplies are available;
- Coordinate numbers of staff required with other team leaders and communicate the need for additional out-of-county staff needed;
- Activate contacts with currently participating direct bill hotels for out-ofcounty staff to secure housing;
- Notify food providers for meal orders and deliveries for staff;
- Coordinate services of law enforcement for EBT security and crowd/traffic control;
- Secure pre-determined signage for all areas **before** a D-SNAP is initiated (to include handicap signs, SNAP/non-SNAP signs, arrows, parking signs, etc.);
- Maintain a list of D-SNAP related supplies and equipment located in the County office. Examples include walkie talkies, bullhorns, weather radios, etc.; and

• Maintain response materials and emergency resource listings.

#### B. Crowd Control

- Activate parking accommodations plan for applicants;
- Arrange shuttle for applicants to and from parking site;
- Arrange for staff parking at surrounding churches/businesses (within short walking distance);
- Arrange for movement of crowds for new applicants and current recipients to include line definition, ribbon/tape/barriers, posters, etc.;
- Provide staffing for crowd management and control including communication devices;
- Distribute and display information regarding directions, program information, fraud penalties, and rights and responsibilities in waiting areas and along route to EBT;
- Coordinate with local law enforcement (in conjunction with logistics team leader) for crowd control and traffic flow; and
- Designate staff in shifts to act as line coordinators; distribute information regarding program and requirements; answer questions; identify needs.

#### C. D- SNAP Certification

- Ensure development and delivery of certification training in conjunction with State Office staff;
- Ensure ample supplies of DSNAP applications and forms are available for new applicants and current FS recipients;
- Communicate needs for equipment, supplies and incoming staff needs to Logistics Team Leader;
- Arrange for certification staffing and scheduling to accommodate potential applicant population;
- Ensure management staffing to be available as policy resource staff at teach eligibility determination site;
- Ensure management staffing to mediate non-program issues of applicants;
- Ensure staffing and procedures for immediate supervisory review and/or filing for fair hearings; and
- Coordinate with and communicate information to EFAC for daily federal reports.

#### D. D-SNAP Issuance

- Ensure secure site to include law enforcement protection for EBT cards (coordinate with Logistics Team Leader);
- Arrange for keying operators and issuance staffing and scheduling to accommodate the potential applicant population;
- Ensure development and delivery of DSNAP issuance staff training on Disaster Program in EBT control system;
- Ensure ample supply of issuance forms;
- Ensure management staffing to be available as issuance resource;
- Communicate needs for equipment, supplies and incoming staff concerns to Logistics Team Leader; and
- Coordinate with Office of Audits, SCEBT and EFAC to ensure proper issuance security and reporting.

#### E. Program Integrity

- Ensure that employees applying for D-SNAP apply only with State Office representative at the designated time;
- Ensure monitoring of and implementation of appropriate action on daily duplicate participations reports;
- Ensure investigation of reports of fraud and abuse by recipients and establishment of claims for over-issuances when appropriate;
- Take calls and investigate why benefits are not loaded onto EBT cards;
   and
- Ensure claims are established and debit accounts for returned EBT cards.

# **Staffing Plan**

- A. Certification Staff total certification staff required to provide services to the potentially eligible *(enter number here)* households *(specify breakdown for each satellite office, if applicable)*:
  - # Site managers
  - <u>#</u> Supervisors
  - # Certification staff
  - <u>#</u> Benefit integrity staff for possible back up

- B. LEP/SI staff or accommodations: Staff will continue to utilize available resources to serve clientele who do not speak English. The Client Services Specialist Coordinator, \_\_\_\_\_\_, will provide an updated Listing of qualified interpreters and will keep staff persons abreast of changes as required regarding LEP/SI services. In addition, the following exiting resources may be used:
  - \_# staff members who are fluent in Spanish; additional certified volunteer interpreters will be located as needed;
  - DSS HABLA, **(803) 777-4344** Spanish assistance Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm;
  - AT&T Language Line, 1-800-774-4344, 24 hours a day for most languages. To access this resource, the Agency Code is 516013, Personal Code is the County number – <u>insert County Code here</u>;
  - The SC School for the Deaf and Blind, (insert local number here if applicable) for sign interpreting. Toll free:1-800-984-4357
- C. Training Staff <u>(insert # here)</u> supervisory level staff with training background (included in certification) will be assigned the function of preparing training packets, and delivering the certification training in conjunction with State Office staff. Subsequent, possibly daily updates will be identified and provided to certification staff by this training staff.
- D. Staffing for keying and EBT card issuance:
  - <u>#</u> supervisors
  - <u>#</u> entry operators
  - <u>#</u> issuance staff
  - # runners
- E. Program Integrity Staffing:
  - <u>#</u> Supervisor
  - #Benefit integrity staff
- F. Logistical Team Staffing:
  - <u>#</u> staff

- G. Crowd Control: the required staffing for crowd control may vary depending on the availability of local law enforcement staff to provide this function.
  - <u>#</u> team leaders
  - <u>#</u> staff
- H. Additional Staffing Assistance our additional projected staffing requirement is approximately \_#\_\_. From within our county staff we estimate \_#\_ will be available to participate in the implementation of the program. We will request approximately \_#\_ staff from outside the \_(insert County name here) \_\_\_ County DSS site.
- I. Lodging accommodations for off-site additional staffing will be arranged by the Logistics Team staff and will be located in available space in the hotels on our direct billing list (see appendix for hotel listing).

# **Facility and Operations Plan**

A. Main Site Location: *Insert address here* 

In this section detail the setup of the D-SNAP. Specify if current SNAP recipients will go the same place as non-SNAP recipients. Detail where disabled individuals will go for assistance at this location, EBT issuance, program integrity, waiting areas, portable restrooms, security stations, LEP/SI clients, training, etc.

#### See appendix for layout of facilities.

- B. Parking arrangements (Main site)
  In this section detail parking for staff and clients. Also detail parking for disabled clients if parking is offsite. Discuss possible shuttle services, if necessary. Identify parking for emergency services.
- C. Alternative Site Location: *Insert address here*

In this section detail the setup of the D-SNAP. Specify if current SNAP recipients will go the same place as non-SNAP recipients. Detail where disabled individuals will go for assistance at this location, EBT issuance, program

integrity, waiting areas, portable restrooms, security stations, LEP/SI clients, training, etc.

Alternative sites will be designated based on severity and location of damage.

See appendix for layout of facilities.

D. Parking arrangements (Alternative site):

In this section detail parking for staff and clients. Also detail parking for disabled clients if parking is offsite. Discuss possible shuttle services, if necessary. Identify parking for emergency services.

#### E. Operating Schedule

- Applications will be received and processed between the hours of \_\_\_\_\_\_
   am and \_\_\_\_\_ pm.
- Staff hours will be from \_\_\_\_\_ am to \_\_\_\_ pm to allow for morning briefings and preparation and end of the day briefings and clean up.
- Breaks (15 minutes) and lunch (30 minutes) will be coordinated by supervisors overseeing specific areas allowing for sufficient coverage during these hours. These will be taken in locations separate from other activities. In addition rest room facilities for staff will be located in both buildings.
- All staff will complete time and attendance reports daily.

See appendix for attendance report

## **Security Issues**

Logistic Team Leader (LTL) will be responsible for communicating the needed level of assistance from local law enforcement entities. The LTL will coordinate with the Crowd Control and Issuance Team Leaders for assignments of law enforcement to their respective areas.

A. EBT Security will require:

 Cards stored in the EBT office in a fireproof safe, which is secured with an alarm system in the main office.

#### B. Crowd Control Security

- Uniformed officers will be stationed in the waiting areas as well as inside;
- Waiting areas will be clearly divided by barriers/roping to maintain orderly waiting lines;
- Members of the Crowd Control Team including those designated as Line Coordinators will assist officers in maintaining control in waiting lines while distribution materials and providing information.
- C. Automobile Traffic local law enforcement will be accessed to monitor potential traffic problems.
- D. Crowd Control staff, officers, site managers and team leaders will be equipped with communication devices. Based on the availability, walkietalkies, cell phones and pagers will be utilized to communicate security issues that may arise from the multiple areas being used for the program, i.e., waiting lines, inside buildings, parking areas, restroom areas. Vocal instructions will be communicated to waiting applicants with the assistance of bullhorns and other voice amplification devices.

### **Personal Comfort/Health**

#### A. Applicants

- Tents will be provided for both waiting areas to protect individuals from sun, heat, and rain;
- Portable restroom facilities will be located at \_\_\_\_\_\_, if applicable.
   Onsite facilities will be sufficient to accommodate the number of individuals expected each day;
- Water buffaloes will be located at two locations in the waiting area;
- EMS will be present on site for medical emergencies; in addition nursing staff from DHEC will be requested to be on site to assist with less emergent needs.
- B. Staff

- Lunches will be provided for all staff participating in the program;
- Break refreshments will be available at both sites.

# Activation and Recovery - To be initiated when a disaster occurs.

#### A. Activate the Plan

Designated staff will assume pre-arranged duties. Pre-arranged agreements will be activated. The facility will be set up according to those plans to accommodate both ongoing SNAP recipients and applicants for D-SNAP.

B. Remain Active in the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Submit Disaster Damage Reports

Designated staff will remain active in the County EOC to obtain needed information to relay to SCDSS regarding the necessity of D-SNAP operations. This will include information about the number of destroyed homes, grocery store closures, etc.

#### C. Assistance Requests

Needs will be assessed and assistance will be requested as outlined in the plan.

#### D. Community Collaboration

Collaboration will be sought and community entities will be informed of DSS activities via the communication process activated through the County EOC.

#### E. Media

Written scripts will be issued to the media via the County EOC to ensure that the public receives accurate information regarding disaster programs and application information.

#### F. Training / Mediation

Training for all staff will occur the day before D-SNAP operations begin, regardless of which day of the week operations begin, though they usually begin on Monday. (Normally, a team will come from SCDSS on Saturday, training and setup will occur on Sunday) On- going training will be provided as needed. It is anticipated that training will occur before the D-SNAP operations center opens or after it closes each day. Scheduling has been arranged to allow this.

#### G. Staff / Law Enforcement Identification

DSS staff will display their identification cards above their waist and will wear designated shirts to ensure that they are visible and can be identified. Staff should wear comfortable footwear and clothing, but should maintain a professional appearance.

Law enforcement officers on-site will wear uniforms at all times to ensure that they are visible and can be identified.

#### H. Signage

Signs will be posted that clearly state the days and hours of D-SNAP operations. Signs will be posted to direct applicants to appropriate waiting areas and application lines.

Signs with pertinent information, such as zip codes in the county, will be posted as aids to out-of-county employees.

#### I. Monitoring and Accountability

A staff member will monitor SCDSS' computer system to ensure proper functioning at all times.

The use of an "Application / Issuance" log will ensure accountability and will allow applications to be paired with EBT cards at specific intervals.

## **Conclusion** – To be initiated after D-SNAP operations are completed

#### A. Staff Recognition

Everyone who participated in D-SNAP Operations will be recognized through letters, certificates, and media press releases.

#### B. Facility Clean Up

<u>insert County name here</u> County DSS will coordinate with <u>insert County</u> <u>name here</u> County to ensure that the facility is cleaned up and is returned to order after D-SNAP operations have ended.

#### C. Financial

DSS 1402s will be submitted to the appropriate PCA /Index Code for purchased supplies, purchased equipment, payments to vendors, etc., to ensure federal reimbursement.

Employees will submit travel vouchers through normal channels for lodging (if not direct billed), meals and mileage. The county business manager will batch these requests and mark them as "Disaster Related" for prompt payment. The county business manager will also submit requests for payment for employees who incurred overtime using the time sheet for Temporary (Hourly Wage) Employees and mark them as "Disaster Related."

#### D. After-Action Review

All employees will meet to review and refine operations. The plan will be reviewed to determine what actually happened and what needs to be changed for the future.

All actions will be reviewed via the County EOC after-action review process, as well.

#### **APPENDIX**

Hotel/Supplies/Restaurant Listings
Damage Assessment Checklist
Attendance Report
Layout of Facilities
Six Month Update

# **Hotel Listing(s)**

| Name | Address | Phone Number |
|------|---------|--------------|
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |

# **Supplies Listing**

| Name | Address | Phone Number | Type of Equipment |
|------|---------|--------------|-------------------|
|      |         |              |                   |
|      |         |              |                   |
|      |         |              |                   |
|      |         |              |                   |
|      |         |              |                   |
|      |         |              |                   |
|      |         |              |                   |

# **Restaurants**

| Name | Address | Phone Number |
|------|---------|--------------|
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
|      |         |              |
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# **Emergency Resources**

# **State DSS**

| Name                    | Title                      | Phone Number |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Amber Gillum            | Interim State Director     | 803.898.7360 |
| Amber Gillum            | Deputy State Director,     | 803.898.7474 |
|                         | Economic Services          |              |
| Karama Bailey           | Division Director, County  | 803.898.1721 |
|                         | Operations                 |              |
| Sele Aligbe             | Director, Disaster Relief  | 803.898.7618 |
| Marilyn Matheus         | Public Information Officer | 803.898.7858 |
| Kaci Herrington-Garrett | D-SNAP Coordinator         | 803.898.0086 |
| Dana Outlaw             | D-SNAP Coordinator         | 803.898.9473 |

# **County Administration**

| Name | Title                 | Phone Number |
|------|-----------------------|--------------|
|      | County Administration |              |
|      | Asst. County          |              |
|      | Administration        |              |
|      | Mayor                 |              |
|      |                       |              |
|      |                       |              |
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|      |                       |              |

# <u>Law Enforcement Agencies</u> (<u>Include county, city, and towns</u>)

| Name | Title        | Phone Number |
|------|--------------|--------------|
|      | Police Chief |              |
|      | Sheriff      |              |
|      | Chief Deputy |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |
|      |              |              |

# Fire Departments/Medical Services (Include city, town, and rural)

| Name | Title | Phone Number |
|------|-------|--------------|
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
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# **Local Media**

| Name | Title | Phone Number |
|------|-------|--------------|
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
|      |       |              |
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# Other Local Resources (include shelters, food banks, etc.)

| Name           | Address | Phone Number | Type of Resource |
|----------------|---------|--------------|------------------|
| American Red   |         |              |                  |
| Cross          |         |              |                  |
| Salvation Army |         |              |                  |
|                |         |              |                  |
|                |         |              |                  |
|                |         |              |                  |
|                |         |              |                  |
|                |         |              |                  |

# Department of Social Services Disaster SNAP Program <u>Damage Assessment Information</u>

| Da  | te completed:                            | Time Completed:   |          | By: |  |  |
|-----|--|-------------------|----------|-----|--|--|
| Req | Required Information                     |                   | Response |     |  |  |
| 1.  | Number or percentage                     | of private        | 1.       |     |  |  |
|     | dwellings destroyed or                   | damaged           | 1.       | 1.  |  |  |
| 2.  | Number or percentage                     | of grocery stores |          |     |  |  |
|     | closed for business, da                  | maged. etc.       |          |     |  |  |
| 3.  |  |                   |          |     |  |  |
|     | ocation of and expected                  | d duration of     |          |     |  |  |
|     | power outages.                           |                   |          |     |  |  |
| 4.  |  |                   |          |     |  |  |
|     | ip codes of the affected                 | areas detailed in |          |     |  |  |
|     | Items 1 and 2. (attache                  | d map             |          |     |  |  |
|     | designating affected areas.)             |                   |          |     |  |  |
| 5.  |  |                   |          |     |  |  |
|     | stimated number of ho                    | useholds          |          |     |  |  |
|     | expected to apply for D-SNAP benefits.   |                   |          |     |  |  |
|     | (10%) of total households in county)     |                   |          |     |  |  |
| 6.  |  |                   |          |     |  |  |
|     | ttach copies of media reports of damage. |                   |          |     |  |  |
|     |  |                   |          |     |  |  |

# **Insert Facilities Layout here**

#### <u>Insert County Name Here</u> County Department of Social Services Disaster SNAP Program

| Date: |
|-------|
|-------|

#### Work Record for <u>Insert County Name Here</u> DSS Employees

| Employee Signature | <u>Time In</u> | <u>Time Out</u> | Hours Worked |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1                  |                |                 |              |
| 2                  |                |                 |              |
| 3                  |                |                 |              |
| 4                  |                |                 |              |
| 5                  |                |                 |              |
| S                  |                |                 |              |
| 7                  |                |                 |              |
| 3.                 |                |                 |              |
| )                  |                |                 |              |
| 0                  |                |                 |              |
| 1                  |                |                 |              |
| 2.                 |                |                 |              |
| 3                  |                |                 |              |

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| 15  | <br> |  |
| 16  | <br> |  |
| 17  | <br> |  |
| 18  | <br> |  |
| 19. | <br> |  |
| 20. |      |  |

# <u>Insert County Name Here</u> County Department of Social Services Disaster SNAP Program

| Date: |  |
|-------|--|
|       |  |
|       |  |
|       |  |

#### Work Record for OUT OF COUNTY Employees

| Employee Signature | <u>Time In</u> | <u>Time Out</u> | <u>Hours Worked</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1                  |                | _               |                     |
| 2                  |                |                 |                     |
| 3.                 |                |                 | _                   |
| 4                  |                |                 |                     |
| 5                  |                |                 |                     |
| 6.                 |                |                 |                     |
| 7.                 |                |                 |                     |
| 8                  |                |                 |                     |
| 9.                 |                |                 | _                   |
| 10                 |                |                 | _                   |
| 11                 |                |                 | _                   |
| 12.                |                |                 | _                   |

| 13  | <br> |  |
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| 18  | <br> |  |
| 19  | <br> |  |
| 20. |      |  |

# **Six Month Contact Form**

| County :                           |          | January/July 20  Date Contacted Signature |                |           |
|------------------------------------|----------|---|----------------|-----------|
| Name and Title of Person Contacted | Provider | Services Provided                         | Date Contacted | Signature |
|                                    |          |   |                |           |
|                                    |          |   |                |           |
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