

DSS

Serving Children and Families
KIM S. AYDLETTE, STATE DIRECTOR

Dear SCCAP Food Stamp Recipient,

You have recently submitted an application form or a review form to continue your food stamp benefits through the South Carolina Combined Application Project (SCCAP). On this form, you indicate that you pay more than \$301 in shelter and utility expenses monthly. If you are able to verify these expenses, you may be entitled to receive more food stamp benefits through the regular Food Stamp Program at your local county Department of Social Services (DSS) office.

If you are interested in finding out if you can receive more food stamps, you will need to take:

- 1. This letter and**
- 2. Verification proving that your shelter and utility bills average over \$301 monthly to your local DSS office and discuss your expenses with a food stamp eligibility worker.**

You may want to call ahead to your local DSS office and discuss the procedure for talking with a worker about your expenses. The DSS worker may be able to handle this over the telephone without you having to make a trip to the office.

You will need to provide to the eligibility worker verification of any of the following bills that you pay:

- **Rent or mortgage (first or second)**
- **Property taxes on your home**
- **Property insurance premiums on the structure (but not for belongings)**
- **Mobile home lot rent**
- **Fuel for heating**
- **Cooling expenses**
- **Electricity (this may include your costs for heating or cooling)**
- **Fuel for other purposes (such as cooking)**
- **Water/well maintenance**
- **Sewage/septic tank maintenance**
- **Service fee for one telephone**

If you pay more than an average of \$35 monthly for out of pocket medical expenses (those prescriptions and other medical expenses that you are responsible for paying yourself and are not covered by Medicaid, Medicare or personal insurance), you may also be entitled to receive more food stamps. If this is your personal situation, you may want to take verification of your medical expenses to talk with a food stamp eligibility worker when you take verification of your shelter and utility expenses above.

If you have any questions about this notice, please call 1-800-616-1309. Remember, to discuss your shelter and utility expenses over \$301 monthly, or your medical expenses over \$35 monthly, call or go to your local county DSS office.

DSS Letter 1299 (JUL 04)