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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 91 LCM-113

Date: June 11, 1991

Division: Income Maintenance

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: AFDC and Food Stamp Data Analysis Reports With Upstate Case
Detail for 10/1/89 through 9/30/90

ATTACHMENTS: Data Analysis Report: Final Report Statewide AFDC-QC
Reviews (10/1/89 - 9/30/90) - not available on-line
Data Analysis Report: Twelve Month Report Statewide
FS-QC Reviews (10/1/89 - 9/30/90) - not available on-line

The attached reports detail the AFDC and Food Stamp Quality Control data for the annual 10/89 - 9/90 period.

In the AFDC Program the Statewide error rate decreased from 7.6% to 5.8% for the annual period ending 9/90. However, the upstate error rate increased from 5.3% to 6.0% for the same period.

After Federal review, the Food Stamp Statewide error rate will decrease from 15.2% to approximately 13.7% for the annual period ending 9/90. The upstate error rate will decrease also from 11.8% to 11.2% for the same period.

The principal Upstate error element in both the AFDC and Food Stamp Programs continues to be Earned Income.

- o In AFDC, the principal agency error was failure to budget reported earned income. The principal client error was the concealment of earned income.
- o In Food Stamps, the principal agency error was failure to use correct budget methodology. The principal client error was failure to report an increase in earned income.

For Corrective Actions we suggest the following:

1. Ensure that your current RFI procedures are being followed and that your line staff are taking timely and accurate actions;

2. Ensure that monthly reports are processed timely and accurately;
3. Focus on errors attributable to the examiners' failure to take appropriate action on information reported by the client;
4. Share and discuss these reports with staff to ensure that they are aware of the major causes for errors; and
5. Emphasize for your staff the need to remind clients at recertification or other contact to report changes in income, case composition or other eligibility factors as soon as they occur.

Let me emphasize the continuing importance of our joint corrective action efforts in a time of very severe budget constraints. The federal moratorium on fiscal sanctions in the AFDC program expired effective 10/1/90. At the same time, New York State continues to face substantial financial penalties for errors in the Food Stamp Program. I am confident that the corrective action initiations listed above will have a significant positive effect on the error rates in both programs.

Our Bureau of Corrective Action Programs staff is available to assist you in implementing the above recommendation. If you have any questions or desire further assistance, please contact Kevin Mahon, Director, Bureau of Corrective Action Programs (1-800-342-4100, ext. 3-6001).

Oscar R. Best, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Income Maintenance