

OFFICE OF TEMPORARY AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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OTDA-4037EL (Rev. 11/98)

Transmittal No: 99 LCM-17

Date: August 5, 1999

Division: Commissioner's
Office

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: TANF State Plan Forums

ATTACHMENTS: None

As part of our continuing administrative responsibilities of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, we are required to resubmit our TANF State Plan to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Our first Plan was submitted on October 16, 1996 and acknowledged as complete on December 13, 1996 by DHHS. Under the federal rules our next submission of the TANF State Plan must be before December 31, 1999. After that our TANF State Plan must be resubmitted to the Department of Health and Human Services every two years.

It has also been nearly two years since the State's enactment of the Welfare Reform Act of 1997. This historic legislation significantly changed the welfare program in New York and provided us with the flexibility which became available under the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act.

It is with these important changes in mind and our need to resubmit to DHHS our TANF State Plan that I am holding an open forum to listen to ideas, suggestions and comments on welfare reform in New York. While I cannot promise that we will respond to all comments, I can promise to read and consider all comments, proposals and suggestions which may be presented.

Three separate forums will be held throughout New York. I invite you to attend one of these forums. I look forward to hearing from you and continuing the dialogue on welfare reform.

August 17, 1999
10:30 - 1:00
80 Maiden Lane
New York, New York
13th Floor, Training Room A

August 20, 1999
9:30 - 12:00
40 North Pearl Street
Albany, New York
16th Floor
Conference Room

September 14, 1999
10:00 - 12:30
State Office Building
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, New York
The main hearing room (off the lobby and across from the newsstand)

Please confirm your plans to attend one of these forums by faxing your name, county, phone number and forum that you will be attending to (518) 486-6255, or calling my office at (518) 474-4152 and leaving the same information.

s/bjw
Brian J. Wing