

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Agency Replaces Food Stamp Benefits for Participating Northwood Residents
Extra Help Available To Households Already Receiving Food Assistance

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is replacing food stamp benefits for program participants affected by the recent tornado in Northwood, N.D. Low-income Northwood residents who are currently receiving food assistance can access replacement benefits by using their EBT debit cards at participating grocers beginning today, August 31, 2007. Governor Hoeven has directed state agencies to provide whatever assistance they can to residents of the tornado-damaged community.

State Food Stamp Director Arlene Dura said, “We are replacing food assistance benefits for participating households in Northwood because the tornado damage and resulting power outage may have destroyed family food supplies.”

Explaining the replacement program she said, “A family that received a \$75 food stamp benefit in August 2007 will automatically have an additional \$75 benefit issued to their food stamp debit card.”

Dura said about 22 Northwood households will benefit from the extra help.

She urged food stamp program participants with damaged, destroyed, or misplaced EBT debit cards to obtain a replacement card from the closest county social service office.

County social service office representatives have been on-site in Northwood. Individuals with questions about their food stamp benefits can contact the Grand Forks County Social Service Office at 701-787-8535, or the N.D. Department of Human Services at 1-800-755-2716.

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