

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamp) clients impacted by storm-related power outages have until June 27 to request replacement benefits**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) clients living in Benson, Eddy, Grand Forks, Nelson, Ramsey, and Walsh counties can apply for replacement benefits if they lost food due to the recent storm-related power outages following the June 17 thunderstorm.

Current SNAP clients must report their food loss to their county social service office within 10 days following the outages or by June 27. They will also need to sign an affidavit verifying their loss.

Replacement benefits are issued on a dollar for dollar basis. An affected household that requests replacement benefits and received a \$75 food assistance benefit in June would receive an additional \$75 issued to their EBT account, if they are approved. Clients use EBT cards at participating grocery stores, farmers markets, and other retailers to purchase food.

To receive the benefit, individuals must be current food assistance clients, must have experienced a food loss due to a power outage at their residence, and must be a resident of Benson, Eddy, Grand Forks, Nelson, Ramsey, and Walsh counties.

Clients with a damaged, destroyed, or misplaced EBT card can get a replacement card at a county social service office. Contact information is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/).

Program Director Arlene Dura said the Department of Human Services works with county social service offices to issue replacement benefits if participating households have their food supplies damaged or destroyed due to a fire, flood, tornado, loss of power for more than four hours, or other household misfortunes.

In May 2016, the federally-funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program served 4,235 households (9,598 people) in the six-county area. The program serves qualifying low-income children, working families, people with disabilities, and seniors on fixed incomes.

Individuals with questions about replacement benefits can call their county social service office or the Department of Human Services at 800-755-2716 or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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