

## Clinton County Hardship Extension

### Administration of the Hardship Extension

A county may declare up to 20% of its average caseload (during a prior Federal Fiscal Year) under “hardship” and continue the assistance indefinitely.

Note: Clinton County Job and Family Services is in no way committed to give extensions after a client exhausts the 36 month time limit even if conditions justify the “hardship” criteria as noted above. Prior to closure all assistance groups due to close under the 36 month time limit will be reviewed. A meeting will be scheduled with the individual, their caseworker, supervisor, and others that may have suggestions to assist you in develop a transition plan. If “hardship” conditions exist, Clinton County Job and Family Services may grant an extension. This extension would be evaluated monthly and could be terminated at any time based on the number of slots available for the 20% exemption and current conditions of the individual. Individuals not approved for extended OWF benefits may continue to receive supportive services if they qualify and will be referred to other agencies or organizations that may be able to assist them.

OWF benefits may be extended for individuals who qualify under the following conditions and/or circumstances:

#### **Reason Code 0401**

- The adult participant has a serious physical/mental illness or condition rendering the caretaker incapacitated for employment. The incapacity must be verified by a physician on a completed Basic Medical form (ODHS 7302), SSI must be pending, and the individual must be participating in an Alternative or Developmental Assignment.

#### **Reason Code 0301**

- It is medically necessary for the adult participant to be the full-time care giver (no other adult is in home and available to provide care) of an immediate family member (child, spouse, parent, sibling) residing in the home. This must be verified by a physician’s statement specifying the diagnosis, prognosis, and care requirements.

#### **Reason Code 0901**

- The adult participant has cooperated fully with all the requirements of his/her Self-sufficiency Contract and has not been sanctioned from OWF for the past 24 months and continues to meet the requirements of the Self-sufficiency Contract. The adult participant is unemployed or under-employed through no fault of his/her own at the time the time limit is reached.

#### **Reason Code 1301**

- A teen parent as long as they are enrolled and in good standing in High School or a GED program and have cooperated with Clinton County Leap requirements.

#### **Reason Code 1001**

- An adult participant who is medically verified to be six or more months pregnant or up to two months post-partum. Performance of a Developmental Activity is required.

#### **Reason Code 9099**

- Transferred to another county; must be reviewed by new county to determine if participant meets new county exemption criteria.

Adopted by Clinton County Commissioners

Stanfoth, Merritt, & Myers  
Commissioner’s Signature

09/18/00  
Date