

**Bob Taft
Governor**



**Barbara Riley
Director**

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OFFICE OF FAMILY STABILITY LETTER #23F

January 31, 2005

TO: Directors, County Departments of Job and Family Services

FROM: Jeanne Carroll, Deputy Director
Office of Family Stability

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 2004 WINTER ICE STORM: ADDITIONAL COUNTIES

We recently announced the availability of funds for disaster assistance for families and individuals who have been adversely affected by the recent severe weather conditions. Please refer to Office of Family Stability Letter (OFSL) #23, dated December 29, 2004.

Counties Declared

Since the issuance of the letter, the Governor has declared ten new counties to be in a state of emergency as a result of the recent severe weather. These new counties are: Adams, Carroll, Erie, Harrison, Lorain, Medina, Paulding, Sandusky, Scioto and Van Wert. This brings the total number of counties to sixty nine.

The counties under a state of emergency are: Adams, Allen, Ashland, Athens, Auglaize, Belmont, Brown, Butler, Carroll, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Columbiana, Coshocton, Crawford, Darke, Delaware, Erie, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Guernsey, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Harrison, Henry, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Huron, Jefferson, Knox, Licking, Logan, Lorain, Madison, Marion, Medina, Meigs, Mercer, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, Paulding, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Richland, Ross, Sandusky, Scioto, Seneca, Shelby, Stark, Tuscarawas, Union, Van Wert, Warren, Washington, Wayne and Wyandot. Other counties may be added at a later date, if or when declared by the Governor to be in a state of emergency.

All counties originally and subsequently named as disaster counties (since the issuance of Family Stability Letter 23 on December 29th) remain under the Governor's current emergency declaration. The funds received can be used for the current disaster-related concerns a county is experiencing, whether they are caused by snow, ice, or water. We will not be issuing any additional funds to counties since this is considered by the Emergency Management Office as one disaster based on the pattern of continuing severe weather.

Extension of Time

Additionally, Family Stability Letter 23 stated that the program ran through close of business on Friday January 28, 2005 contingent upon funding. Since that first letter was published, many more counties have been added as disaster counties and certain counties are still experiencing

disaster situations. We are therefore extending the time frame for the program until the close of business on February 25th, 2005 contingent upon funding.

Reporting

Please report both the number of elderly/disabled individuals and families served to Karen Ernes at ernes@odjfs.state.oh.us by the close of business on Friday of each week until the program ends. These figures help to estimate expenditures and to assist in determining the number of food boxes that will be distributed through the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks to families who receive disaster-related PRC assistance during this disaster.

New Counties

Please reference the Office of Family Stability Letter (OFSL) #23 for eligibility requirements, the maximum amount of funds that will be available to each county and the funding and fiscal coding procedures.

The December 2004 Winter Ice Storm Program in Adams, Carroll, Erie, Harrison, Lorain, Medina, Paulding, Sandusky, Scioto and Van Wert will begin on **Friday January 28, 2005** and run through close of business on **Friday February 25, 2005**.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact Karen Ernes at ernes@odjfs.state.oh.us or (614) 466-4815.

JC: ke

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