



## **REPLACEMENT FOOD STAMP INFORMATION AND OTHER SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE FOR STORM VICTIMS**

### **Replacement Food Stamps**

- To replace spoiled food purchased with food stamps, individuals must complete and submit to their [county department of job and family services](#) (CDJFS) a **“Statement Requesting Replacement of Food Stamp Benefits”** form within 10 days of the event that caused the food to spoil (in this case, Sept. 14) or, if the person was away from home, 10 days from when the food spoilage was discovered.
- Individuals can request an amount equal to the amount of food lost, but not exceeding the food stamp allotment for the month in which the disaster occurred.

### **Disaster Assistance**

- Families may qualify for up to \$1,500 in Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) disaster assistance. Certain elderly and disabled individuals may qualify for up to \$750 in disaster assistance.
- To be eligible for TANF disaster assistance money, families must include a minor child or pregnant woman and have evidence of economic need.
- Elderly or disabled individuals who are not eligible for TANF assistance may be eligible for disaster assistance if they are at least 55 years old and childless, if they receive certain disability benefits, or if they were adversely affected by the severe weather and can provide evidence of economic need. Only one payment may be made per dwelling.
- [CDJFS offices](#) will set eligibility criteria and take disaster assistance applications.

### **Extended Hours**

Many CDJFS offices are offering extended office hours and alternative sites for storm victims to apply for assistance and replacement benefits. The following agencies have reported their hours to us:

- **Hamilton CDJFS** will be open to accept replacement applications from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20, and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21,.
- **Franklin CDJFS** will accept applications at the South Opportunity Center at 3723 S. High St. from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20.
- **Clark CDJFS** will accept applications at the WorkPlus Center until 7 p.m. on Friday and from 8:30 am until noon on Saturday.

## Other Resources

- **Ohio United Way's 2-1-1 service.** By simply dialing these three digits, 75 percent of the state's population can talk directly with a trained professional who can tell them about local food banks, shelters, clothing sources, rent assistance, utility assistance and foreclosure assistance. The 2-1-1 service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It's free, confidential and multilingual.
- Those areas not covered by the 2-1-1 service are primarily in southeastern and northwestern Ohio. For **southeastern Ohio**, Hocking Athens Perry Community Action is an excellent source of help. Among other things, it operates the Southeastern Ohio Regional Food Center. For more information, visit <http://www.hapcap.org/seorfc.htm> or call (800) 385-6813.
- For **northwest Ohio**, the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank can be reached at (419) 242-5000. For the names and numbers of other northwestern Ohio resources, call United Way of Greater Toledo at (419) 248-2424, United Way in Wood County at (419) 352-2390, or United Way in Ottawa County at (419) 734-6645.
- To find contact information for any **United Way** office in Ohio, visit <http://www.liveunited.org/myuw/local.cfm> and click on "Ohio."
- To find the names of **food banks** in your area, visit <http://feedingamerica.org>, click on "Food Bank Locator," and type in your Zip code.
- To find out information about the Red Cross in your area, visit <http://redcross.org/> and type in your Zip code.
- Many of the Salvation Army centers, Catholic Charities, other church groups, YMCAs and YWCAs have been offering meals, shelter and showers to those adversely affected by Sunday's wind storm.