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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WELFARE CORRECTING SNAP NOTIFICATION ERROR**  
**Some SNAP recipients did not receive expiration notification**

(Carson City, NV) – The Nevada Division of Welfare & Supportive Services is working diligently today to contact the estimated 7,000 Nevadans who were not notified their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits were set to expire at the end of July.

SNAP benefits, formerly known as food stamps, are provided for a finite period of time, often 12 months, at which point the recipient must reapply and have their eligibility reevaluated. Forty five days prior to the expiration of benefits, Welfare sends a letter to the recipient reminding them that their benefits are set to expire. Due to a technical problem, about 7,000 recipients had their benefits expire July 31 without receiving the reminder letter.

“We are responding immediately to the technical difficulties that resulted in about 7,000 of the letters not getting sent out as they should have on June 16,” said Division Administrator Romaine Gilliland. “We determined there was a problem when recipients contacted us stating they had not received their August benefits. We are now in the process of calling every one of the individuals who did not receive their notification to get them in for a re-determination. We are committed to getting essential food assistance to our clients as quickly as possible.”

Any SNAP recipient who did not receive the August benefits as expected should go into the district office that handles their case and submit an application or submit a completed application by mail. An application can be printed from the Division’s web site, <http://dwss.nv.gov> or one will be mailed by calling 486-1646 in southern Nevada or 684-7200 in northern Nevada. All those who did not receive the proper notification of their benefits expiration will have their re-application expedited.

Nearly 210,000 people in Nevada were receiving SNAP benefits in May, representing 97,779 cases. The average benefit per case in May was \$271.67. All SNAP benefits are funded by the federal government; the State of Nevada pays for half of the administrative costs.

Benefits are deposited directly onto an electronic benefits transfer card, similar to a debit card, the recipient can then use at participating retailers to purchase food items.

For more information about SNAP visit the Welfare Division at <http://dwss.nv.gov>.

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