DDS has been fielding questions regarding the stimulus payment, unemployment and DDS rent subsidy.

Please see below for detail on each of these topics.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) has provided the following information:

Medical: HUSKY A, B, D <u>IRS stimulus check & UCB</u>: Not countable as income. There are no asset considerations for these programs. <u>Additional UCB</u>: Not countable as income – no asset considerations

Medical: HUSKY C for the Aged, Blind & Disabled

IRS stimulus check: Not countable as income. Exclude from assets for 12 months after receipt.

<u>Additional UCB:</u> Not countable as income. Countable asset if retained in subsequent months. Must be spent before the Redetermination.

SNAP & Cash Benefits

The extra UCB is counted for SNAP. For State Supp it is counted as income in month received and as an asset in subsequent months if retained. Regular UCB counted as income for both programs.

SNAP Benefits- We have received questions about the SNAP roll-over

SNAP- will roll over for up to three months by the third month if it has not been spent the beneficiary will receive a letter from DSS and DSS will start to deduct benefits in small increment. It is important that individuals on SNAP use their benefit as appropriate in a timely manner.

Medicare & SSI

<u>Stimulus payments</u>: Have NO impact on Medicare. SSI beneficiaries who received the stimulus payments are entitled to it and those funds will NOT be counted for SSI purposes. Those payments are excluded income for SSI and excluded as assets for 12 months.

Additional UCB: is counted as income for SSI and it will impact SSI benefits.

(UCB= Unemployment Compensation Benefit)

From DDS

DDS Rent Subsidy

<u>Federal Stimulus payment</u> of \$1200 is not counted as an asset or as income Regular unemployment Benefits counted as income <u>Enhance/Additional unemployment</u> (\$600 per week) counted as an asset.

Spending Down Additional Income Suggestions

For individuals looking for options to spend the extra money in their account the following options can be reviewed:

- set up an ABLE account;
- purchase a Burial Plot; and
- set-up and irrevocable burial account.

Attached is a factsheet regarding Funeral Plan and Benefits. Included below is a link for the ABLE National Resource Center which includes informational webinars and other helpful resources.

Please feel free to share with individuals and families.

https://www.ablenrc.org/