Dear Network Partners,

This email is being sent to all network partners that distribute the USDA Foods- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). At the request of the Vermont Foodbank the income guidelines for the TEFAP program have been temporarily increased from 185% to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level. The increase was requested in anticipation of circumstances with respect to COVID-19. The increase will enable more people living in Vermont to access USDA Foods/TEFAP. The increase is temporary until further notice.

Attached is the updated Statement of Eligibility forms in both English and Spanish. If customers at your food shelf have signed the Statement of Eligibility since July 1, 2019 then the form does not have to be completed again until July 1, 2020. For new customers, a volunteer or staff member can fill out and sign the Statement of Eligibility so that the recipient does not have to touch the form, pen or electric signature touch pad. As with all TEFAP forms, they must be kept on file for the current year and for the next three years.

TEFAP food can be used when delivering to homebound customers as long and they meet the new income eligibility, a form is filled out for them and they live in Vermont.

While the Statement of Eligibility is currently available in English and Spanish, if there is another language that would be helpful and should be considered in the future please reply with your recommendations.

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider.

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