02.02.2024

Classic Medicaid Information

	Oldest Document	Total Cases
Spend Down Program	01/25	39
Daily Spenddown Emergent Cases	N/A	0
Alien Emergency Medical Program	01/30	1

Backlog Reduction Project

- January 26 – 48,112 documents and pending client actions
- Current ready-to-work date: 34 days
- Due to budget constraints, all OT has been cancelled.

Transitional Food Assistance (TFA) Expansion

- DSHS will be expanding Transitional Food Assistance (TFA) support to households exiting TANF/SFA with a member in WorkFirst Sanction.
- The change will begin for TANF/SFA cases that close effective 01/31/24.
- Previously a household wasn't eligible for TFA if one of the household members was in WorkFirst Sanction.
- TFA benefits will be based on the income budgeted for food in the final month of TANF, excluding the TANF grant.
- The household member that is in WorkFirst sanction will not be included in the household count when calculating benefit amount.

Cash Assistance Resources

- Beginning February 1st, 2024, there will be significant changes to resources for our cash assistant programs.
- The Total resource limit is going to increase from $6,000 to $12,000.
- Retirement/pension accounts are no longer going to be a countable resource.
- The entire equity value of one vehicle will be excluded.
    - Currently up to $10,000 of equity for one vehicle is excluded unless someone in the household is physically disabled.

EBT Notify Text Pilot

- DSHS, in collaboration with The US General Services Administration US Notify Pilot, has created a process to text customers to inform them of this suspected fraudulent activity on their EBT account and recommend EBT card replacement.
- Beginning January 16th, 2023, impacted customers will receive a US Notify text from **1-855-531-7292** in their primary language if it is English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, Somali, and Cambodian.
- The message will read:
  DSHS: We've identified unauthorized use on your EBT account. Call the phone # on the back of your card to cancel or go to your local CSO for immediate replacement.

Questions?

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