



1 (5) Provide training to community action and advocacy groups wishing to  
2 know more about the Food Stamp Program.

3 Sec. 2. The Division of Social Services, Department of Human Resources,  
4 shall develop informational pamphlets on the Food Stamp Program for community  
5 distribution, aimed at reaching the following groups:

- 6 (1) The rural poor;  
7 (2) Senior and disabled citizens;  
8 (3) Migrants;  
9 (4) AFDC and Medicaid recipients;  
10 (5) The homeless;  
11 (6) The working poor; and  
12 (7) Farmers and fishermen.

13 Sec. 3. The Division of Social Services, Department of Human Resources,  
14 shall develop an instructional videotape on the Food Stamp Program to include:

- 15 (1) Food Stamp Program eligibility requirements;  
16 (2) Food Stamp Program clients' rights and responsibilities;  
17 (3) Food Stamp Program methods of issuance, including mail, "on-  
18 line," and "authorization to participate" cards; and  
19 (4) Food Stamp use in grocery stores.

20 The instructional videotape shall be designed for use by county human services staff  
21 and others, such as community action agencies, when providing information to  
22 recipients and potential applicants.

23 Sec. 4. The Division of Social Services, Department of Human Resources,  
24 shall develop a media campaign on the Food Stamp Program, to include:

- 25 (1) A pamphlet for community distribution to describe the Food Stamp  
26 Program, its eligibility requirements, and how to apply;  
27 (2) Public service spots on the Food Stamp Program for radio and  
28 television; and  
29 (3) Informational material on the Food Stamp Program regarding:  
30 a. Facts about poverty and myths and stereotypes of the Food  
31 Stamp Program and its participants; and  
32 b. Histories of people now considered successful who received  
33 food stamps in the past.

34 Sec. 5. (a) The Division of Social Services, Department of Human Resources,  
35 shall facilitate and administer at the State level, demonstration projects, to be conducted  
36 by those counties that choose and are selected to participate, designed to remove  
37 barriers to needed participation in the Food Stamp Program. These projects shall  
38 consist of those comprehensive activities participating counties consider necessary to  
39 remove barriers to necessary use of the Food Stamp Program. Participating counties  
40 may contract with local agencies to conduct these activities.

41 (b) Counties desiring to participate in the demonstration projects authorized in  
42 subsection (a) of this act to enable them to conduct comprehensive activities designed to  
43 remove barriers to necessary use of the Food Stamp Program shall submit a detailed  
44 plan to a review committee appointed by the Secretary of Human Resources, upon

1 consultation with the Director of the Division of Social Services. A project may include  
2 one county only or may be a multicounty effort. In its selection process, the review  
3 committee shall consider those criteria the Department of Human Resources adopts by  
4 rule making, including:

- 5 (1) Requiring that projects be geographically diverse, with both rural and  
6 urban representation; and
- 7 (2) Giving priority to those areas with the most need, based on poverty  
8 level information and participation rates.

9 (c) In order to be considered for selection to participate in the demonstration  
10 projects, a county's plan shall include:

- 11 (1) The establishing of a referral network consisting of community action  
12 agencies, client advocates, and other appropriate agencies that work  
13 with low-income families. The Division of Social Services shall  
14 furnish to the county a list of such groups that may be active in that  
15 county. The county shall expand this list to include any other local  
16 groups of which it is aware;
- 17 (2) The informing of the community about the Food Stamp Program  
18 through informational materials, and visits to community agencies;
- 19 (3) The training of local groups on a semi-annual basis to update  
20 awareness of Food Stamp policies;
- 21 (4) The training of volunteers to assist with completing the Food Stamp  
22 application;
- 23 (5) The securing of local media support for distribution of information  
24 regarding program highlights, feature stories, and program  
25 announcements;
- 26 (6) The effective use of outposts, extended office hours and home visits;
- 27 (7) The establishing of a local advisory board consisting of  
28 representatives, from both public and private sections, who work with  
29 low-income families. This board shall meet regularly to discuss and  
30 coordinate issues affecting these families.

31 Sec. 6. The Division of Social Services, Department of Human Resources,  
32 shall develop a method of evaluating its activities, and the activities of the county  
33 human services staff, designed to remove barriers to Food Stamp Program use. The  
34 evaluation shall include the examination of why target groups fail to use the program,  
35 the nature of referral networks established, and the enhanced training of the human  
36 services staff. The Division of Social Services may contract for the evaluation.

37 Sec. 7. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Social  
38 Services, Department of Human Resources, the sum of \$347,818 for the 1990-91 fiscal  
39 year to fund the State share of the cost of funding this act.

40 Sec. 8. This act shall become effective July 1, 1990.