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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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New information about changes to the Food Stamp Program (SNAP)

Trenton- New Jersey's Food Stamp Program, also known as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) has raised its income limits. Previously the income limit was at 130% of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level) and it has now been increased to 185% of the FPL. In some cases, assets such as checking or savings accounts, will not affect eligibility. These two new changes will allow the Food Stamp Program to help more people. During difficult economic times, more people are in need of help to buy food for their families.

As of April 2010, 185% of the FPL means that to be eligible for Food Stamps an individual's gross monthly income would be \$1670 or less and that a couples gross monthly income would be \$2247 or less. For larger household add approximately \$577 per each additional person.

"These changes are significant for families and seniors who live on the edge of poverty" according to Grace Egan, Executive Director of the NJ Foundation for Aging. "Seniors are under enrolled in this vital community program. We are interested in getting the word out that these changes mean many seniors will now qualify for this program".

You can find an application for SNAP (Food Stamps) online at www.njfoodstamps.com or at www.njhelps.org, where you can use an online screening tool. For more information or to find your local SNAP office call 1-800-687-9512.

To learn more about the work of the Foundation visit www.njfoundationforaging.org or call 609-421-0206. The New Jersey Foundation for Aging was established in 1998 to create ongoing financial support for aging services in New Jersey. Its mission is to expand innovative approaches in the delivery of services that enable older adults to live in the community with independence and dignity.

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