Eliminating "Monthly Reporting"

January 4, 2016

REPORT ON FREQUENCY OF FILING OF FINANCIAL REPORTS BY RECIPIENTS OF TRANSITIONAL AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN DECEMBER 2015

MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE
The mission of the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) is to assist low-income individuals and families to meet their basic needs, increase their incomes, and improve their quality of life. DTA offers a comprehensive system of programs and supports to help individuals and families achieve greater economic self-sufficiency, including food and nutritional assistance, cash assistance, and employment supports.

DTA serves one out of every nine people in the Commonwealth including working families, children, elders, and people with disabilities.

Description of the Report
Line-Item 4403-2000 of the Fiscal Year 2016 budget directs DTA to report on the feasibility of requiring recipients to complete a financial report not more than twice a year.

Monthly Reporting
Historically, DTA has required TAFDC clients to report income on a monthly basis – this is known as Monthly Reporting. This process was cumbersome not only for clients, but also for DTA. With this in mind, beginning in December 2015 DTA has eliminated Monthly Reporting.

Effective December 2015, DTA will determine grant levels and eligibility prospectively for up to six months for clients with employment. Clients are now required to complete a reevaluation every six months, and are also responsible for reporting gross monthly income changes of over $100. DTA's Online Guide, which is available for public viewing on the DTA website, has been updated to reflect this change. Additionally, a notice was sent to all clients who were previously on Monthly Reporting.

DTA appreciates the legislature's interest in this policy, and looks forward to engaging on the success of this change.