**Updated**

**Policy Clarification**

**SNAP – All – PFS-20589-550**

**Submitted: 08/09/2021 Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Chafee** **Foster Care Program payments under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260)**

 **The Chafee Foster Care Program received $400 million in additional funds from the Supporting Foster Youth Program and Families through the Pandemic Act provided under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260). The specific manner in which these funds are administered may impact the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.**

**Question:** **How are these Chafee program payments treated for SNAP?**

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| **Response By: DFPPM** |  **Date: 08/17/2021**  |  |  |
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Because Chafee funds are not specifically excluded by statute as income for determining SNAP eligibility, any recurring payments made to the household are counted as income for SNAP.

A one-time, non-recurring, lump sum payment is excluded from income for SNAP but would be considered a resource in subsequent months for determining SNAP eligibility.

At least one Children and Youth Agency has issued the Chafee funds spread out over two payments. This is still considered a non-recurring lump sum payment and should be excluded as income for SNAP but considered a resource in subsequent months.

If the household is provided the benefit as a direct payment to a vendor and not in the form of a direct payment to the household, the payment is excluded from SNAP income.

It is the SNAP household’s responsibility to report this income if it is received. If the household reports the income, then the county assistance office should assist in verifying the income for that household by contacting the appropriate Children and Youth Agency.