WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

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Some See Increase in SNAP Benefit April 1

CHEYENNE – Some adults and children benefitting from a nutrition assistance program called SNAP may see an increase in their monthly benefit April 1, thanks to the passage of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA).

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP used to be called Food Stamps. It's a decades-old program supplementing the food budgets of elders, children and vulnerable adults. The program is funded entirely by federal dollars and is administered by the Wyoming Department of Family Services.

The change means recipients could see an increase in their monthly SNAP allotment. The increase for those who qualify is in effect April 1-Sept. 20, 2010, as written in the ARRA, commonly called the economic stimulus package.

"Knowing who is eligible for SNAP is complicated, so if you think you might qualify, we want you to visit your local DFS office," DFS Economic Assistance Administrator Heather Babbitt said. "We have information online about who is eligible, but we really don't want people jumping to any conclusions about their eligibility."

Applications in English and Spanish are available for printing online at http://dfsweb.state.wy.us. To learn the name and address of the DFS office in your community, call 800-457-3659.

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