FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 9, 2009

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Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamp) clients impacted by storm can request replacement benefits

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services and Stark County Social Services want Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program clients to know that, if they have lost food due to the storm or related power outages, replacement benefits are available.

Current program participants must report their food loss to the county social service office within 10 days of the loss in order to get replacement benefits. They will also need to sign an affidavit.

The replacement is based on "dollar for dollar." An affected household that requests replacement benefits and received a \$75 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefit in July would receive an additional \$75 issued to their EBT account, if they are approved.

Individuals with damaged, destroyed, or misplaced EBT cards can obtain replacement cards from any county social service office.

Individuals with questions about their benefits can contact the N.D. Department of Human Services at 800-755-2716.

In June 2009, the federally funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly called Food Stamps) served 931 households (1,788 individuals) in Stark County.

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