

Attached, please find additional information the Committee asked for in Friday's Testimony by Deputy Commissioner Tricia Tyo and Heidi Moreau. The attached provides a timeline of the pandemic benefits provided for 3SquaresVT and Reach Up (RU), a case study comparing pre-pandemic vs. pandemic benefits, and overview of federal income applicable to ESD customers.

Additionally, the data below accompanies the timeline to offer further detail.

- **Emergency Maximum Allotment**
  - Over \$45m issued. Households already at the maximum level received \$95 in max allotment benefits. \$95 is also the minimum benefit.
- **15% increase to Thrifty Food Plan Table**
  - Approximately \$1.8 million in additional benefits per month.
- **Pandemic EBT**
  - *2019/2020 school year*: \$15m issued to 25,000 households with almost 39,000 children at a benefit of \$387/child.
  - *2020/2021 school year*: \$15m issued through February to 25,000 households with almost 39,000 children. Benefit amount varies based on whether child is attending in-person, remote, or hybrid learning. Benefit run for March-June scheduled for July 2021.
  - *Summer*: Benefits for families normally receiving free/reduced price meals and SNAP households with children under the age of 6 at \$375/child. State plan still being developed. Issuance between July 2021-September 2021. Summer 2021: benefit expected to be \$375/family for school children and child care age children.
  - *2021/2022 school year*: Food benefits for families normally receiving free or reduced lunch. FNS has stated a benefit will be available for the 2021/2022 school year and summer 2022. No eligibility guidelines have been provided.
- **3SquaresVT cash benefits**
  - 22 505 households received \$286/household.
- **RU cash benefit**
  - *November 2020*: Each family received \$432 for a total of \$1.3m.
  - *December 2020*: Each family received \$391 for a total of \$1.3m.
  - *August 2021*: Estimated to be \$230/child enrolled in Reach Up for a total of \$1.6m.
  - *TBD per H.315*: Per legislation, \$1.3m to be distributed in a manner similar to earlier one-time benefit checks.
- **RU Rental Assistance Program:**
  - Renters have rent paid directly to property owners, helping RU families keep their full RU grant for the duration of the program. Rent ranges from ~\$150/month to \$1000/month. Program uses ERAP funds and is ongoing through at least March 2022.

We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if you have any questions about the above or attached.