

Food Stamp Program Currently Is Helping 103 Chowan County Families Eat Better Foods

(This is the sixth in a series of articles on social service in Chowan County. The last article explained the medical assistance program. Today's article will present the facts about the Food Stamp Program.)

By ROBERT HENDRIX
Director

The Food Stamp Program has operated in Chowan County since October, 1965. At present it is helping approximately 103 needy families each month to buy nutritious foods at practically any grocery store in the county.

point, \$3,647.50 has been spent by participants this past month and they have received, free, \$2,746.50 worth of bonus coupons. This money represents \$6,394 which can be spent only for food.

Food stamps help needy families eat better. When a family does not have much money, it cannot buy all the food it wants or needs. But there is a lot of good food in this country. So food stamps are used to help people get more food for their money at the grocery store.

Some people think the stamps are to pay for all the food they are now buying. But that would not help them eat better. They need additional food for a balanced diet. This is what stamps can accomplish. The money a family now spends for food is worth more if it is turned into stamps. That means the family can buy a larger variety of more nutritious foods with the stamps and can have a balanced diet.

The amount and kind of food a person needs depends upon the person. A person once said, "We are what we eat." Children need good food to help them grow. The rest of us need good food to work, to enjoy life and not be sick. Older people need to watch what they eat, too. They may not want as much food as they ate when they were younger. So they should be sure to eat the right kind of food.

To get food stamps people must go to the Chowan County Social Services office and sign up. Most people who are on public assistance are eligible. However, there are a few exceptions. Other households who are not on public assistance can get stamps if their monthly income is low. It depends on how much income they have and how many people live in the household.

In the Food Stamp Program a household means a group of related or non-related individuals who are not residents of an institution or boarding house, but who are living as one economic unit sharing common

cooking facilities and who purchase and prepare food for home consumption cooperatively. An individual living alone may also be considered a household. A boarder is considered to be part of the household, but a person that just rooms in the house is not.

When we are talking about food stamps, income means any money that people get. This means money from any kind of work. It also means money from welfare checks and from old age pension, from social security or from unemployment insurance. Money from relatives or from roomers and boarders is also counted.

Some people can get food stamps even if they have a little more money than eligibility allows. Also some people will pay less than the regular amounts for stamps. These things happen if people have certain "special considerations" expenses for doctors or for medicine or if they pay high rent or have to pay for child care.

"Hardship" costs may also be considered. These include such things as funeral expenses or expenses caused by fire, flood and tornadoes. The social services office will explain how these things work out. They will help to see that the people who really need food stamps will get them. They will also work out the right amount people pay for stamps.

Any grocery store can arrange to take stamps if the owner wants to and most of them do. It is easy

to use stamps in the store. Food stamps are as good as money for food and food stamp customers are treated the same as other customers.

Stamps can be used to buy almost any food sold in the store. There are only a few foods that cannot be bought with stamps. These are packaged or canned food which say on the label that they are imported, but any coffee, tea, cocoa or bananas can be bought with stamps. Stamps cannot be used to buy soap and other things such as alcoholic beverages or tobacco that are not food because stamps are for food only.

When the shopper pays for his food in the stores he should tear out of his book of stamps just enough to pay for the food he has bought. The grocer does not have to tear the coupons out of the book. If the grocer owes the customer any change, he will give back 50 cent stamps for change or he will give back a due bill if the change is less than 50 cents. The due bill can be spent in his store later just like stamps.

The grocer must give back a due bill for change of less than 50 cents if the shopper asks for one. A person does not have to buy candy or other things he does not want to make the price come out even. The grocer cannot give back cash in change.

It is possible that soon the purchase requirement for food stamps will be lowered and that more stamps will be available

for the price than are now given. The Food Stamp Program is at any rate an excellent program and the best way to distribute good nutritious food to our people. Certainly it gives the needy the opportunity to purchase food where and when they want and in amounts suitable to them.

The Food Stamp Program is operated through Agriculture is responsible for authorizing and supervising the participating grocers. The families pay about what they would spend for food each month and receive food coupons worth considerably more than that amount. On the average, these families pay about \$6 for \$10 worth of coupons.

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The U. S. Department of

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Service Station And Grocery Operation
APPLY
LEARY OIL COMPANY
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BRING US YOUR FILM FOR PROMPT PROCESSING

The sun is a cheaper clothes dryer than an electric one.
But brother, does it do a bad job!

The sun is undoubtedly the most cantankerous clothes dryer ever made. For one thing, it only works half the time. But when it does, it fades your clothes. And since the sun is outdoors, your clothes get dusty, tattered and wind-whipped. And if it decides to cloud up, they can get wet. Soggy. And muddy.

What you need is an electric dryer. The simplest, cleanest, quickest, most efficient way to dry clothes.

Of course, it might cost more to buy than sunshine.

But it sure beats anything else you could buy.

See these authorized Live Better Electrically appliance dealers



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Enterprise Supply Co. Box 345 Columbia, N. C. 27925 Phone 796-2221
Tyrrell Furniture Co. Main Street Columbia, N. C. 27925 Phone 796-3281
Tyrrell Hardware Co. Columbia, N. C. 27925 Phone 796-2451
- CRESWELL:**
Creswell Sales and Service P. O. Box 38 Creswell, N. C. 27928 Phone 797-4319
- EDENTON:**
Byrnum Hardware Co. 218 South Broad Street Edenton, N. C. 27932 Phone 482-2131
Goodyear Service Stores Edenton, N. C. 27932 Phone 482-2477
Harrell's, Inc. 409 South Broad Street Edenton, N. C. 27932 Phone 482-3310
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Allstate Builders Supply 301 N. Hughes Blvd. Elizabeth City 27909 Phone 335-5455
Carolina Furniture Co. 609 East Fearing Street Elizabeth City, N. C. 27909 Phone 335-5992
W. T. Grant Co. Southgate Mall Elizabeth City, N. C. 27909 Phone 335-3267
Harrell's, Inc. 1019 North Road Street Elizabeth City, N. C. 27909 Phone 338-6994
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Sears, Roebuck & Co. Ehringhaus Street Elizabeth City, N. C. 27909 Phone 335-5435
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- HERTFORD:**
Harrell's, Inc. Edenton Highway Hertford, N. C. 27944 Phone 436-5209
Hertford Hardware & Supply Edenton Highway Hertford, N. C. 27944 Phone 436-5211
Hertford Motor Company Edenton Highway Hertford, N. C. 27944 Phone 436-5203
- ROPER:**
The Stillman Company Cooper, N. C. 27970 Phone 796-5772

NOTICE!
TO ALL VOTERS OF CHOWAN COUNTY SPECIAL ELECTION
Thurs., Nov. 4, 1969

NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to Chapter 1228, Sessions Laws 1969, a special election will be held in Chowan County for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the county the questions of whether or not a one per cent (1%) local sales and use tax will be levied and collected in the county, at which said election there will be submitted to the qualified voters of Chowan County the following propositions:

FOR The One Per Cent (1%) Local Sales and Use Tax
AGAINST The One Per Cent (1%) Local Sales and Use Tax

REGISTRATION PERIOD FOR SPECIAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD
Sat., Oct. 11, 18, 25
FROM 9:00 A. M., TO 6:30 P. M.
AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES

East Edenton.....Chowan County Court House
West Edenton.....Edenton Municipal Building
Rocky Hook.....Rocky Hook Community Building
Center Hill.....Rosser Bunch Store
Wardville.....H & H Grocery
Yeopim.....Edenton Airport Building

Challenge Day Nov. 1, 1969
9:00 A. M., to 3:00 P. M.
Election Day Tues., Nov. 4
6:30 A. M., to 6:30 P. M.

A new registration of voters is NOT required. The registration books of Chowan County in the election precincts named will be used. The books will be opened as stated for persons not previously registered. A person wishing to register must have resided in the State of North Carolina for one year and the precinct for 30 days.

The registrars and judges of election, appointed by the Chowan County Board of Elections, shall be the election officials for said special election. ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL NOT BE USED.

CHOWAN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Mrs. George C. Hoskins, Chairman