



TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Joseph P. Whalen – Township Supervisor

Serving the People where they live.

February 1, 2017 (Date of Notice)

To all Peoria Township Relief General Assistance Clients:

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN GENERAL ASSISTANCE --- PLEASE READ CLOSELY

Effective March 1st, 2017 ("Date of Change"), the monthly grant amount for an adult General Assistance (GA) case will be **REDUCED** from \$325 per month to \$255 per month.

This decision was not made lightly, and considered very carefully after several factors were taken into consideration. The biggest factor considered is the sharp **increase** in the number of people receiving General Assistance over the last several years. In 2016 alone, the amount paid out for General Assistance grants has increased from \$53,258 per month in January to \$70,685 per month in November, an increase of more than \$17,000 per month. The township is tasked with helping as many people as possible, but also required to stay with its budget and tax levies. In order to help the ever-growing number of those seeking assistance, a reduction in the grant amount is necessary. Otherwise, the Township will be unable to meet current demand.

In determining its grant going forward, the Township carefully studied the grant amounts of similar townships in central Illinois. At \$325 per month, Peoria Township has one of the highest General Assistance grant amounts of similar townships that were studied. Reducing the amount to \$255 per month will put Peoria Township in line with the average of what other townships are providing in General Assistance

If you have been receiving \$325 per month (which is most GA clients), you will start receiving \$255 per month with your March check. Those who already receive reduced amounts for various reasons will have separate notices mailed to them with new amounts along with budget worksheets to show how those amounts were obtained. **Those who are an RPY for a family case will NOT see any change to their grant amounts.**

Along with this reduction in the grant amount, there will also be a reduction in the hours required for the Community Work and Training Program (CWP). **Anyone who has a CWP assignment will now be required to do a maximum of 7 hours per week** (rather than a maximum of 9 hours per week). This change will also be effective March 1st. These details will be worked out with each cooperating agency.

Please do not hesitate to contact my caseworker Kevin at 674-8237 ext. 101, with any questions. This decision conforms with section(s) 9.04, 9.05, 18.15, of our General Assistance Manual, and is consistent with 305 ILCS 5/6-2 of the Public Aid Code. Copies of these documents are available at the Township office upon request.

Thank you,

Joseph Whalen- Peoria Township Supervisor