NEW YORK STATE

OFFICE OF TEMPORARY & DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

40 NORTH PEARL STREET, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243

BRIAN J. WING Commi ssi oner



Dear Nursing Home Resident

As an SSI recipient living in a New York State certified Medical facility, you are entitled to receive a total of \$35 monthly for incidental expenses. This includes a \$30- payment from the federal government and a \$5 supplemental payment from the State of New York. The Federal Government had been providing this \$5 State supplement in its monthly benefit to you, thus totaling \$35.

Beginning on October 1, 2003, the payment of these benefits will change. New York has chosen to directly provide you with the total of \$5 owed to you by the State. This, when combined with your monthly federal benefit of \$30 will still total your traditional \$35 monthly benefit. It is important to note that the total combined benefit which you receive each month will not change.

Beginning October 1, 2003 the State of New York will send your \$5 payment directly to whoever currently receives your federal benefit each month. For those persons with Direct Deposit, if your facility is your Representative Payee for your SSI payments, you will also receive your \$5 supplement via Direct Deposit. If your facility is not your Representative Payee, you will get your Federal Benefits through Direct Deposit and a \$5 monthly State check.

If you receive your benefit in a monthly check, this process will continue except that you will get a monthly \$30 Federal check and a monthly \$5 State check. Please note that you will continue to receive your Federal Benefit in the same manner in which you have always received it.

This process will begin with the October 2003 payment month. Direct Deposit is a faster safer method to receive your funds. If you wish to switch to Direct Deposit and to designate your facility as your Representative Payee for your Federal and State benefits, you must contact your local Social Security Office. If you have any questions regarding this change please contact the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance at 1-800-342-3009.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Stevens Deputy Commissioner Division of Temporary Assistance