



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Northeast Region

10 Causeway St.
Room 501
Boston, MA 02222

APR 04 2019

Courtney Hawkins, Director
RI Department of Human Services
Louis Pasteur Building
57 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

Dear Director Hawkins:

Please find attached the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Northeast Regional Office's (NERO) response to Rhode Island's (RI) submitted semi-annual Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for November 2018, which was received on November 30, 2018.

LONG TERM CORRECTIVE ACTION:

Closed findings:

The State's response for the findings below indicated that all corrective action steps have been implemented. Furthermore, the documentation provided was sufficient for FNS to validate and close the findings.

EBT 17.6

This finding is now closed. FNS validated the State's inventory log on February 27, 2019.

EBT 17.7

This finding is now closed. FNS validated the State's inventory log on February 27, 2019.

EBT 17.8

This finding is now closed. FNS validated that all EBT card supplies are stored in a locked, controlled storage closet located in the Providence DHS office on February 27, 2019.

Claims 15.3

This finding is now closed. The definition provided by the State has an accurate date of discovery.

INTEG 17.10

This finding is now closed. The notice provides all Federal required language.

INTEG 17.11

This finding is now closed. The State is using one Notice of Disqualification which includes all Federal required language.

INTEG 17.12

This finding is now closed. ADH decisions now includes all Federal regulations.

Validation efforts:

The State's response for the findings below indicated that all corrective action steps have been implemented, but FNS seeks additional information to validate and close the following findings. Please see the response tool for further information.

INTEG 17.3

eDRS not checked at application and recertification.

INTEG 17.6

The State is not checking eDRS for newly added household members.

INTEG 17.8

Inaccurate application of the approved IPV threshold.

INTEG 17.9

IPV claims disposed of with incorrect interpretation of "aged claims."

INTEG 17.14

Potential IPV cases are not being referred to the Fraud Unit.

INTEG 17.15

Administrative Disqualification Hearing referrals reduced since RIBridges go-live.

INTEG 17.16

IPV case files are incomplete and do not contain sufficient documentary evidence.

INTEG 17.17

DHS is not in compliance with the Federal records retention requirements.

INTEG 17.18

DHS is not in compliance with the IPV case records maintenance requirements.

INTEG 17.19

The State's prisoner match verification system is not in production.

INTEG 17.20

The State's deceased matching system is not in production.

INTEG 17.21

DHS failed to develop an efficient tracking system to monitor cases referred for prosecution.

INTEG 17.22

DHS does not have a system in place to refer appropriate cases for prosecution.

In addition to the above findings, there remains a number of open findings. Please provide an update on all open findings in the enclosed May semi-annual CAP tool. If you have any questions please contact Maria Volpe at 617-565-6390 or Maria.Volpe@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bonnie Brathwaite" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bonnie Brathwaite, Director
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Northeast Region

Enclosure

cc: Bethany Caputo
Maureen Donnelly
Kim Nikolaidis
William O'Donnell