

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 22, 2005  
TO: The Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Diana F. Hutchens, Director of Social Services  
SUBJECT: Request to Change Locality Grouping - Virginia Administrative Code (VAC)

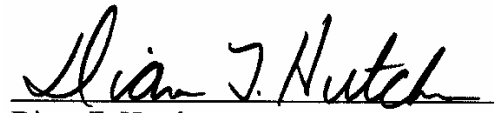
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Pursuant to 22 VAC 40-293, Locality Groupings, James City County Social Services is requesting a change in the standard of assistance locality grouping from Group I to Group III to raise the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) payment rates in James City County to the same level as the York/Poquoson Department of Social Services and the Newport News Department of Social Services.

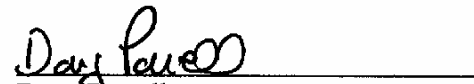
Regulation 22 VAC 40-293-20 requires the agency to submit a request to the State Board of Social Services, supply Fair Market Rent Data, and supply documentation that the proposal has been shared with the local governing body. The Fair Market Rent Schedule shows that the rent costs in the localities of Newport News and York County are equal to the rent costs in James City County. The TANF payments would be more equitable if the payment levels were the same in these localities.

This change would increase the standard of assistance and the TANF payment standard that is graduated by family size for a family of three from \$292 (Group I) to \$389 (Group III). The maximum income level used to screen for eligibility for a family of three would increase from \$546 to \$727. If the total gross countable income exceeds the maximum income level, the case is ineligible.

Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution.

  
Diana F. Hutchens

CONCUR:

  
Doug Powell

DFH/gs  
TANFrates.mem

Attachment