



DC | DEPARTMENT of  
HUMAN SERVICES

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**CONTACT:**

Dora Taylor (DHS) 202.374.9473; [dora.taylor@dc.gov](mailto:dora.taylor@dc.gov)

### **DHS Releases Report on Feedback about TANF Hardship Extension Policy from Community Listening Sessions**

Washington, DC – Today the Department of Human Services (DHS) released [\*Recommendations for Development of a TANF Hardship Extension Policy for Washington, DC\*](#), a report created by the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Working Group. The report documents the recommendations, deliberations, and stakeholder feedback for developing a hardship extension policy and related improvements to the District of Columbia's TANF program.

As the nation reflects on the 20th Anniversary of federal Welfare Reform, and lessons learned nationally and in the District are considered, there is a unique and important opportunity to shape a TANF policy that meets the needs of District families. The report highlights the values that this community shares: that the enrichment, security and wellbeing of minor children is paramount to the foundation of any TANF policy; that services to parents should increase economic stability and independence for families through access to meaningful education and employment resources; and that there are clear protections in place to support our most vulnerable families. DHS will work with the Council of the District of Columbia and other stakeholders through the budget process to develop and implement a policy that reflects these values.

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