# IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND FACTS ABOUT **TANF REQUIREMENTS**

## WHAT ARE THE NEW TANF REQUIREMENTS?

**TANF** customers must now attend an Orientation and complete an Assessment and Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP) when applying for or recertifying for benefits.

#### -WHAT IS AN ORIENTATION AND ASSESSMENT?

The Orientation explains the new requirements for receiving **TANF**. The Assessment is a private interview with a **DHS** specialist that will identify a customer's strengths as well as challenges to determine the best vendor/provider to help the customer move toward self-sufficiency.

# WHAT IF I DO NOT COMPLETE THE ORIENTATION AND ASSESSMENT?

If you do not attend the Orientation and complete the Assessment and IRP when required, you will not be eligible to receive **TANF** benefits.

#### -WHAT IS AN IRP?

The Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP), is developed by you along with a Vocational Development Specialist (VDS) from the Department of Human Services. It lists your goals, and career interests, and the steps needed to achieve self sufficiency. You are required to complete the activities in your **IRP**, which may include going to work or attending school. You can modify your **IRP**, but you will need to work with your case manager to make changes.

#### - WHAT IF I DO NOT FOLLOW MY IRP?

For If you do not follow your **IRP**, and you do not have a documented good cause, you will be sanctioned. A sanction is a temporary reduction in benefits applied to your case until you are in compliance with your **IRP** for four weeks. You **MUST** report to **OWO** to update your **IRP**.

## HOW DO I COMPLETE THE ORIENTATION AND ASSESSMENT ?

You will be assigned to avendor/service provider based on the results of your assessment. You will also be eligible to apply for assistance with child care.

# HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TANF REQUIREMENTS?

WE ARE WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

**DC** | DEPARTMENT of HUMAN SERVICES

> For more information about TANF Requirements, please call the Family Resource Center at **202.698.1860**