## **HELP FIGHT FRAUD!**

There are many ways to fight fraud. You can help, too!

- ⇒ Always provide complete and accurate information to your Eligibility Specialist.
- ⇒ Report all changes in your situation within 10 days of the date they happen.
- ⇒ Assist your Eligibility Specialist in getting verification necessary to support your statements.
- ⇒ Look at your medical bills carefully and make sure you received all the services listed.
- ⇒ Do not share your Medicaid number or your medical records with anyone but your doctor or other health care provider.
- ⇒ Do not let anyone borrow your Medicaid card.
- ⇒ If you suspect fraud, REPORT IT!!

#### If You Have Questions

Please contact your local FSD office or your Eligibility Specialist if you have any questions regarding your case or the information in this pamphlet.

## HOW CAN I REPORT FRAUD?

## To report suspected Temporary Assistance fraud, contact:

Your local county FSD office

Email: DLS.ReportFraud@dss.mo.gov

## To report suspected Medicaid client fraud, contact:

Department of Social Services Division of Legal Services Investigations Unit PO Box 1527 Jefferson City, MO 65109

Email: ask.DMS@ dss.mo.gov OR

DLS.ReportFraud@dss.mo.gov

Phone: (573) 751-3285

## To report suspected Medicaid provider fraud, contact:

Missouri Attorney General Medicaid Fraud Control Unit PO Box 899

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Email: ask.DMS@dss.mo.gov OR

AG@ago.mo.gov

Phone: (573) 751-7192 or 1-800-286-3932

Remember...everyone suffers from public assistance fraud!

# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

### TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE MEDICAID



## INFORMATION YOU NEED ABOUT FRAUD

## **ABOUT FRAUD**

The State of Missouri protects your tax dollars through the detection and prevention of fraud.

The State of Missouri's goal is to discourage fraud through:

- Investigation,
- Public education, and
- Prosecution of those who commit fraud.

## WHAT IS FRAUD?

Fraud is a crime. It is saying things you know are not true so you can get benefits you are not entitled to get.

You are committing fraud if you:

- Hide information about eligibility.
- Do not give complete eligibility information.
- Do not give truthful eligibility information.
- Do not report changes as required.
- Speak or write false or misleading statements.
- Change or falsify documents.

# WHAT ARE THE FRAUD PENALTIES?

#### RESTITUTION

All money that was fraudulently received must be repaid. The debt can be repaid through:

- <u>Recoupment</u> Current monthly benefits may be reduced by 10% until the debt is repaid.
- Payment Plan Money that was fraudulently received may be repaid through a monthly payment plan.

#### **CRIMINAL PENALTIES**

The crime of stealing or attempting to steal public assistance benefits valued at \$750.00 or more is punishable by:

- 1 year in county jail, or
- 5 years in prison, or
- Fine of \$10,000

The crime of stealing or attempting to steal public assistance benefits valued at less than \$750.00 is a misdemeanor

#### **DISQUALIFICATION**

If convicted of making false statements about your identity or residency in order to receive Temporary Assistance or Medicaid in more than one state at the same time, you will be ineligible for Temporary Assistance for 10 years.

## WHY FIGHT FRAUD?

Public assistance programs are funded by state and federal funds. They are intended to support people through difficult times and help them get back on the road to self-sufficiency.

There are a limited amount of tax dollars available to fund public assistance programs. Preventing fraud and abuse protects the integrity of these programs so that the funds are available for people in need.

## A LOT IS AT STAKE!

When fraud and abuse occur, we ALL pay!

Please help preserve the integrity of Missouri's programs.

