

MASS. HS20.2:C 62/2

CLOSED CASES, NO EXTENSION REQUEST- REVIEW

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As requested, Program Assessment conducted a review of former recipients whose TAFDC benefits had expired as a result of the 24 month clock and who had not requested an extension of benefits. The intention of the review was to *identify factors which motivated these individuals to make the transition to self-sufficiency without requesting any additional financial help from DTA.*

On 1-27-99 Systems identified a universe of 1513 of these cases, and at Program Assessment's request produced a sample (every third case) of 504 cases. (It was determined during the review that 4 cases had been miscoded, 20 had now applied for an extension, and an additional 36 responded by saying they planned to apply for one, leaving 444 cases to be surveyed.)

LOQC staff began the review of these cases on 2-1-99. The review began with an analysis of the case record and discussions with Department staff. We attempted to determine if relevant information was available from either the final transition plan, other case record information, or information known to TAO staff familiar with the case. While recording this information and using it where appropriate, steps were taken to reach this population. The results of those steps are:

- . In 53.8% cases the former recipient was reached by phone. In 12 instances the former recipient refused to cooperate.
- . In 8.8% cases the former recipient was reached in person at home.
- . In 2.3% cases a collateral contact (e.g., mother) provided information by phone
- . In 5.0% cases a collateral contact provided information when reached in person at home

In the remaining 30.1% of the cases without one of these primary sources of information, telephone contact (multiple attempts) was attempted when a phone # could be obtained. Requests for information through the mail (sent or left at the house) were also attempted. There remained 7 (6 we could not reach, and 1 we did reach) instances in which the LOQC reviewer could not make an informed opinion on the circumstances which led the former recipient to not request an extension.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
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444 Cases

Continued Employment	121 (27.2%)	*Average hours: 25.6 *Average wage: \$6.65/hr.
Increased earnings	118 (26.6%)	*Average hours: 29.9 *Average wage \$7.23/hr.
New Earnings	94 (21.2%)	*Average hours: 28.4 *Average wage: \$6.88/hr.
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	333 (75.0%)	

Child support	32
Unearned Income	20
Moved in with partner	15
Refused to cooperate	12
Moved in with other family member	11
Unable to Determine	7
Moved out of Mass	6
Moved, whereabouts unknown	4
Children no longer eligible	4

* Average hours and average wages were based on information received. In some instances the former recipient did not wish to divulge specific information.

Time Limit Closings

No Extension Requested

Self-Sufficiency Factors



