



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

161 Delaware Avenue

Delmar, NY 12054-1393

Richard F. Daines, M.D.
Commissioner

Wendy E. Saunders
Chief of Staff

March 24, 2008

DAL: DRS #08-03
Subject: IRS Economic Stimulus

Dear Administrator:

Beginning in May 2008, the United States Treasury will begin sending **Economic Stimulus Payments** to more than 130 million American households, including some individuals residing in New York State nursing homes. The Department would like to take this opportunity to provide guidance to our nursing home providers in this matter, since individuals who have little or no tax liability may qualify for a minimum payment of \$300 (\$600 if filing jointly) if their tax return reflects \$3000 or more in qualifying income. The deadline for filing will be October 15, 2008.

Although providers have no regulatory responsibility to file this information for their residents, we encourage all providers to communicate this opportunity to residents and their designated representatives. The Department requests that providers post information available on this package in highly visible or commonly traveled areas. Additionally, the Department recommends that providers share this same information with residents, legal guardians, families and designated representatives in venues including, but not limited to, Resident Council and Family Council meetings. Please encourage your Social Services team to disseminate this information to all eligible parties.

The Internal Revenue Service will be mailing information packages to Social Security and Veterans Affairs recipients beginning the week of March 24, 2008. Specific information on the Economic Stimulus Package, including eligibility requirements, FAQs, forms and instructions can be found at:

- www.aarp.org
- www.irs.gov

Additional assistance for completion of the IRS Form 1040A can be obtained by contacting the following toll-free numbers:

- Tax Rebate Hotline at **1-866 234-2942**, or
- IRS Volunteer Assistance – **1-800 906-9887**
- **AARP members only** may also call **1-888 227-7669**

The Department appreciates your efforts in communicating this opportunity to our NYS nursing home residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Valerie A. Deetz'.

Valerie A. Deetz, Deputy Director
Division of Residential Services