

Meeting Notice: *Health and Human Services Working Group on the Plan to Close the Cliff Effect for Individuals and Families Who Receive Public Benefits*

The Benefits Cliff Effect Working Group has been established to develop a plan to close the “cliff effect” in New Hampshire. The cliff effect occurs when wages from a new employment opportunity do not make up for a family’s loss of public benefits and leave the family in a worse financial situation. These “benefits cliffs” keep families from climbing up and out of poverty and into self-sufficiency. As a result, individuals may not be able to pursue new employment opportunities and employers will continue to experience workforce challenges.

The Benefits Cliff Effect Working Group will work with DHHS to develop a plan to close the cliff effect for individuals and families receiving public benefits, including recommendations for policy changes and/or legislation. This working group will play an important role in coordinating poverty reduction strategies across State agencies and provide support to employers to ensure the long-term economic success for New Hampshire’s families.

WHAT: Meeting of the Benefits Cliff Effect Working Group

**WHEN: 3:00PM - 4:30PM
Wednesday, September 9, 2020**

WHERE: Zoom Meeting

Call in # 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID #997 7244 0086

Password 852606

The meeting is open and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Earlier this year, Governor Chris Sununu and DHHS released a white paper on the issue, *Helping Business Thrive and Families Prosper: Widen roads to self-sufficiency by closing the cliff effect*. For more information, please visit: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/ocom/solving-benefits-cliff-effect.htm>.

If accommodations during the meeting are needed for communication access such as interpreters, CART (captioning), assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services, please contact Maureen DiTomaso at Maureen.Ditomaso@dhhs.nh.gov, (603) 271-9404. Requests made fewer than five (5) days prior to the event will attempt to be accommodated but cannot be guaranteed.

For more information about the Cliff Effect Working Group meeting, please contact Maureen DiTomaso at Maureen.Ditomaso@dhhs.nh.gov, or at (603) 271-9404.