Dear TANF Client:

Early in 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was passed. The act among others established a Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund (PEAF). The funding is a time-limited one-time fixed grant that the State of Arkansas has received, that allows the state Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program to provide non-recurring-short-term assistance to TANF eligible clients impacted by COVID. You are receiving this notice because you were enrolled in a TANF funded program such as Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) program, Work Pays program, Career Pathways Initiative (CPI), or the Arkansas Food Bank TANF Summer Food Initiative on or after June 2021. We will be mailing TANF participants who meet the eligibility criteria a one-time check in the amount of $450.00.

Eligibility Criteria
(1) Household income is equal or is less than 250% of Federal Poverty Guideline.
(2) You are a parent or a caretaker relative of a dependent child living with you, or you are a non-custodial parent
(3) A United States Citizen, refugee or a legal immigrant, and Arkansas resident
(4) Household emergency need is related to COVID-19 pandemic

Pandemic Emergency (Supplemental) Services
(1) Emergency Financial Assistance: One-time payment to supplement household income for families to deal with added costs caused by COVID-19 pandemic.
(2) Healthy Family Safety Promotion Package: Supplies such as disinfecting supplies, personal protective equipment, First Aid kits, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap, garbage bags, thermometer, and over the counter (OTC) medicine, and other items as needed.
(3) Emergency Food Assistance: Funding to assist families with the extra expense of children being in the home full time and learning remotely due to the pandemic.
(4) Burial Assistance: Funding assistance with burial expenses for eligible families who have lost a family member in their immediate household due to COVID-19.
(5) Quarantine Hotel Room Assistance: Supplemental funding for temporary housing (hotel lodging) for eligible individuals who need to quarantine away from their families due to exposure or positive test results.
(6) Quarantine Meal Assistance: Supplemental payment for eligible individuals who are in quarantine away from their family due to COVID-19 exposure or positive test results.
(7) Financial Hardship Rescue Assistance: Supplemental funding designed to help offset expenses that families have incurred from financial hardships due to COVID-19 pandemic. For example, utility payments, mortgage/rent payments, etc.
(8) Basic Necessities / Clothing Assistance: One-time assistance to purchase personal hygiene items, clothing (appropriate for child/adult), shoes, and other items needed to enhance an individual's ability to return/enter into the work field, school or community.

We sincerely hope this will help you and your family as you work your way back to normalcy, self-sufficiency, and recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic.