

Families receiving RI Works benefits (RI's cash assistance and work-readiness program) live in deep poverty. You can make their lives better by working together to pass two bills.

Senate 226 and House 5683 would improve the lives of the 2500 RI Works families right away and provide a better future by:



More money for families.

- Increase the monthly RI Works payment. A family of 3 now gets \$554. This would increase to \$915 and would then be adjusted for inflation. There hasn't been an increase in this payment in 30 years!
- Rhode Island pays less than any New England state and is the only state that hasn't adjusted the benefit.
- This increase would help 6000 children and parents.



Clothing allowance for All children in RI Works families.

- Once a year, RI pays a \$100 clothing allowance for children over age 4 (and no allowance for children on SSI in these families).
- Providing the allowance to all children in the family means 1,400 more children will receive this payment.



2 years at CCRI.

- Most RI Works parents have an "employment plan".
- Only one year at CCRI is now allowed as an employment plan. Changing the law to allow 2 years at CCRI will help the parent get a better job.



Don't count income for 6 months when a parent starts a job.

- A parent who starts a minimum wage job loses the cash benefit, transportation benefit and case management services right away.
- Changing this so the income doesn't count for 6 months after starting work, helps the parent adjust to working.



There is federal money to pay for these changes.

- We need to convince the Governor and our state senators and representatives that these families are a priority and these changes need to be paid for in the budget.

Your voice matters: Join with us at raisingri.org