

## **X. Lien on Real Property & Civil Judgments**

As required by law (RSA 165:28), the City will place a lien on any real property owned by a recipient of General Assistance except for just cause. Such a lien will remain in effect during the recipient's lifetime or until the amount of General Assistance provided by the City Welfare Department is repaid. Interest will accrue at 6% per annum after the first twelve months. The property does not need to be a primary residence of the recipient or located in Berlin for the City to place a lien on it.

The City is also entitled to a lien for the amount of assistance granted to a recipient of General Assistance upon property passing under the terms of a will or by intestate succession, a property settlement or a civil judgment awarded for personal injuries. The City is entitled to the lien only if the assistance was granted no more than 6 years before the receipt of the inheritance or award (RSA 165:28-a).

## **XI. Work Program**

The City Welfare Department may require a recipient of general assistance to participate in the City's Work Program for all or any portion of assistance it provides, at a job that is within his or her capacity, as a condition of continued eligibility for assistance. The person will not be paid cash wages for such work, but rather will work off the cash value of assistance given at the rate of exchange equivalent to the prevailing wage for the kind of work performed in the City as determined by the municipality's pay schedules prevailing at the time of application for assistance. The amount an assisted person may be required to reimburse the City for aid received shall be reduced by the credits received from participation in the Work Program (RSA 165: 31).

The Work Program will be structured so as to allow the person time to look for work, to schedule interviews for possible employment, and to make and keep appointments with other service or welfare agencies. The Welfare Official may require recipients to provide documentation of their attendance at a conflicting interview or appointment.

A recipient working on the Work Program will be expected to abide by the Work Program rules as given in writing and acknowledged by the recipient. Failure to abide by the rules will mean suspension of assistance for seven days and fourteen days if the recipient has had a prior suspension within the past six months. Sanctions will remain in place until such time as the recipient has completed the work program hours.

A recipient of General Assistance cannot refuse to work for the City unless he/she:

- Has a conflicting interview for a job possibility that could be scheduled for no other time than the hours scheduled on the Work Program.
- Has a conflicting interview at a service, employment, or welfare agency.
- Lacks adequate means of transportation to the job site if not within walking distance and the City fails to provide transportation.
- Lacks adequate means of child care and the City fails to provide it.
- Has a medical appointment that could not be scheduled or rescheduled to accommodate the Work Program Schedule.
- Is ill as verified in writing by a physician.
- Must care for their minor children not in school when no other care provider is available or must remain at home because of illness or disability to another member of the household verified in writing by a physician.

- Doesn't have the tools or materials required to do the job and the City fails to provide them.

**XII(a). Grounds for Denial, Termination, Reduction,  
or Suspension of Assistance**

A person's application for assistance may be denied or a recipient's assistance may be terminated, reduced, or suspended for the following reasons:

- Failure to complete an application or to provide requested verification of information.
- Determination by the Department that resources are equal to or exceed need.
- An applicant or recipient obtains or attempts to obtain assistance by means of an intentionally false statement or intentional misrepresentation, or by impersonation or other willfully fraudulent act or device.
- An applicant or recipient fails to report all income or available assets at any time.
- An applicant or recipient fails to notify the Department of any change in needs and/or resources which may affect eligibility for continuation of assistance.
- An applicant or recipient fails to apply for another form of assistance within one week of having been advised to do so by the Department.
- An applicant or recipient refuses a job offer or referral to suitable employment without good cause or who voluntarily terminates employment without good cause. Factors to be considered in determining whether there is good cause for such refusal include the person's ability and physical and mental capacity,