



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF
ADAM J. BELLO
MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

MONROE COUNTY TO HOST PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL TOWN HALL ON SNAP WORK RULE CHANGES

First in a series of town halls planned to help residents navigate changes to SNAP eligibility

Rochester, NY — Monroe County is inviting residents who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to a public informational town hall on Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Ibero Community Resource Center – 216 Clifford Avenue. The town hall will focus on upcoming changes to SNAP eligibility rules for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs), which go into effect on March 1, 2026.

This in-person event is designed to help community members understand the ABAWD work requirements - who is affected, what exemptions are available, how to comply, how to get assistance with local employment and training resources. County staff and community partners will be available to answer questions and provide guidance.

“SNAP is a critical lifeline for thousands of Monroe County families and children, putting food on the table and helping keep our community healthy and strong,” **said Monroe County Executive Adam Bello**. “As requirements change, Monroe County is leading the way to make sure every eligible resident understands the new rules and has the information, support, and tools they need to maintain their benefits. I’m grateful to our County Legislators and our Department of Human Services for stepping up to eliminate confusion, provide clear guidance, and empower residents to make informed decisions that keep their families fed and healthy.”

“Changes to public benefit rules can be confusing and stressful,” **said Thalia Wright, Commissioner of the Monroe County Department of Human Services**. “This town hall is about making sure residents have clear, accurate information and know where to turn for help.”

The town hall is open to the public and will be held from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the following location:

Wednesday, February 18
Ibero Community Resource Center*
216 Clifford Avenue, Rochester, NY 14621

Partners: Ibero and Monroe County Legislature President Yversha Roman
**to be presented in both English and Spanish*

Translation services and accommodations will be available as needed.

This is the first of several town hall meetings on this subject scheduled for the upcoming weeks. Details regarding the additional town halls will be released next week.

For more information, residents can visit www.monroecounty.gov/snap-abawd-changes.

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Media inquiries:

Steve Barz, Director of Communications
SteveBarz@MonroeCounty.gov
(585) 753-1064

Kara Osipovitch, Deputy Director of Communications
KaraOsipovitch@monroecounty.gov
(585) 753-1081