**External Newsletter Copy for Community-Based Organizations**

***Information suitable for a newsletter article to the people you serve***

**[Word count: 195]**

**U.S. Department of the Treasury Requires Federal Benefit Payments to be Made Electronically**

*There’s Still Time to Comply With the Law*

*Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Fiscal Service*

Although the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s deadline to switch to electronic federal benefit payments has passed, people who still receive paper federal benefit checks can comply with the law. It’s fast, easy and free to sign up for **direct deposit** or the **Direct Express®**Debit Mastercard**®**card:

* Call the U.S. Treasury Electronic Payment Solution Center at (800) 333-1795,

Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST.

* Sign up online at [www.GoDirect.gov](https://www.godirect.gov/gpw/) (*direct deposit only).*
* Visit your bank or credit union *(direct deposit only).*

**Be Prepared**

Have the following information on hand when you make the switch to electronic payments:

* 12-digit federal benefit check number
* Amount of most recent federal benefit check
* Financial institution’s routing transit number\* *(direct deposit only)*
* Account number\* and type – checking or savings *(direct deposit only)*

*\*This information is often on personal checks.*

For more information, visit [www.GoDirect.gov](https://www.godirect.gov/gpw).