



FINANCIAL READINESS

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

**CHANGE YOUR SPENDING HABITS NOW!
20% PAYCUTS ARE COMING – BE PREPARED!**

STEPS TO TAKE NOW TO SEE WHERE YOU STAND!

- ☐ **CHANGE -- TAKE CARE OF YOUR NEEDS AND LEAVE OFF YOUR WANTS**
- ☐ COMPLETE A MONTHLY BUDGET TO INCLUDE 20% LESS GROSS PAY)
(ARE YOU IN A SURPLUS? \$_____ OR DEFICIT? \$_____)
- ☐ TRACK DAILY EXPENSES VIA DEBIT CARD REGISTER – WATCH YOUR SPENDING!
- ☐ RUN ONE FREE CREDIT REPORT VIA www.annualcreditreport.com
- ☐ KNOW HOW MUCH YOU OWE AND TAKE STEPS TO COVER THE 20% REDUCTION IN INCOME.

STEPS TO TAKE TO LIMIT IMPACT OF 20% LESS INCOME!

- ☐ CALL CREDITORS TO SEE IF YOU CAN LOWER PAYMENTS (MAKE MEMO OF CALL)
- ☐ PAYOFF SMALL DEBTS (CREDIT CARDS, ETC) ASAP TO INCREASE CASH FLOW
- ☐ CANCEL, POSTPONE OR CHANGE VACATION PLANS – APPLY CASH TO DEBTS
- ☐ RE-EVALUATE FEDERAL TAX EXEMPTIONS (FEDERAL WITHHOLDING)
- ☐ SELL UNWANTED ITEMS AND APPLY CASH TO DEBTS (JEWELRY, CARS, ETC)
- ☐ HAVE A YARDSALES TO CLEAR OUT CLUTTER FROM STORAGE UNIT
- ☐ LIMIT EATING OUT (\$_____ PER MONTH)/(\$_____ PER WEEK)
- ☐ RENT MOVIES THROUGH THE “\$1 BOXES” INSTEAD OF CABLE COMPANY
- ☐ REDUCE/ELIMINATE CONSUMABLE HABITS (SMOKING/DRINKING)
ATTEND FREE TOBACCO CESSATION CLASS - CALL (270) 956-0100
- ☐ LIMIT GASOLINE (\$_____ PER MONTH)/(\$_____ PER WEEK)
- ☐ LIMIT GROCERIES (\$_____ PER MONTH)/(\$_____ PER WEEK)
- ☐ USE COUPONS WHENEVER POSSIBLE (MAKEUP, SOAPS, ETC)
- ☐ USE A WEEKLY DINNER MENU PLANNER
- ☐ CONSIDER A SECOND JOB FOR YOURSELF OR SPOUSE
- ☐ CONSIDER SHOPPING AT CONSIGNMENT AND THRIFT STORES
- ☐ REDUCE GROOMING EXPENSES (HAIRCUTS, NAILS, ETC)
- ☐ CARPOOL /USE CLARKSVILLE TRANSIT SYSTEM (CITY BUS)



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- ☐ FILE FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES
- ☐ INSTALL PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT TO REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION
- ☐ CANCEL LAWN SERVICES & HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES
- ☐ CANCEL NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OPT FOR FREE NEWS ON INTERNET SITES
- ☐ CANCEL GYM MEMBERSHIP AND UTILIZE FREE GYMS AND WALKING PATHS
**POST PHYSICAL FITNESS CENTERS ARE FREE TO ALL ID CARD HOLDERS
(MILITARY/DOD CIV) 270-798-3320/3094**
- ☐ REDUCE CELL PHONE
- ☐ REDUCE CABLE (ASK ABOUT TEMPORARY SUSPENSIONS)
- ☐ REDUCE INTERNET
- ☐ REFINANCE CAR
- ☐ REFINANCE MORTGAGE
- ☐ REDUCE CHILD CARE
- ☐ REVIEW CAR INSURANCE POLICY – SHOP FOR CHEAPER INSURANCE
- ☐ QUALIFY FOR FOOD STAMPS/WIC/START A GARDEN
- ☐ OPT OUT OF OVERDRAFT PROTECTION (STOP OVERDRAFT FEES)
- ☐ LOWER TSP CONTRIBUTIONS TO 5% TO FREE UP CASH FOR DEBTS
- ☐ (LAST RESORT - CONSIDER A TSP LOAN AGAINST YOUR TSP FOR CRITICAL DEBTS ONLY: MORTGAGE, CAR, FOOD, GAS)
- ☐ **CALL ACS FINANCIAL READINESS AT (270) 798- 5518 AND SCHEDULE FREE INDIVIDUAL BUDGET COUNSELING. DON'T WAIT!**

**ACS FINANCIAL READINESS IS HERE TO HELP
EACH OF YOU THROUGH THIS FURLOUGH PERIOD!
GIVE US A CALL AT (270) 798-5518 TODAY!**

**REMEMBER– “NEVER LET MONEY COME BETWEEN
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY – STAY ARMY STRONG!”**