
National Fuel Funds Network
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July 2, 2010
Energy Safety Net Bulletin #154

Have you made your voice heard in support of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program? Have you let your Congressional delegation know how important it is to provide at least \$5.1 billion in funding for LIHEAP for FY 2011? If you have not, please take a few minutes to visit the website sponsored by the NFFN and the American Gas Association and send letters to Congress supporting this vital program. The site is easy to use and with just a few keystrokes you can generate letters to both of you Senators and your member of the House of Representatives. Just click here to get started <<http://aga.capwiz.com/aga/home/>> .

During the National Energy and Utility Affordability Conference, more than 350 letters were sent to Congress by conference attendees. Now it's your turn to act. Visit the site, send the message and ask your friends to do the same. Let Congress know the importance of this program,

Summer LIHEAP Action Day

Summer LIHEAP Action Day is Wednesday, July 28, 2010. The American Gas Association, the Edison Electric Institute and NFFN are organizing the event. The NFFN is asking its members and LIHEAP supporters to come to Washington in July to lobby the Congress in support of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Registration for the Summer LIHEAP Action Day is free and can be done on-line at <<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/D257KZ6>>.

A block of rooms is reserved at the Liaison Capitol Hill, An Affinia Hotel at 415 New Jersey Avenue, NW (located 1 block from AGA) at the rate of \$189 per night. To reserve a room call 1-866-233-4642 and refer to the American Gas Association rate or log on to <<http://www.affinia.com>> and select the Liaison Capitol Hill. Enter **AMGASS** as the promo code. More details about the Summer LIHEAP Action Day will be available soon on the NFFN website.

National Fuel Fund Network Actions

The NFFN Board of Directors elected Tom Stovall of Operation New View Community Action Agency in Dubuque as its Chairman at a June 14 meeting in San Antonio. Stovall

replaces Sue Montgomery Corey whose term has expired. The Board also elected Marsha Belcher of CEDA, Chicago as Vice Chairperson and John Rich of the Mid America Assistance Coalition as treasurer. Nancy Udy of the Salvation Army remains as secretary.

The Board seated newly-elected members Tanya Brothers of HeartShare Human Services, Rhonda Harper of Citizens Gas, and Mary Ellen Vanni of the Fuel Fund of Maryland. Carolyn MacKool of DTE Energy resigned from the Board, and Winston Feheeley of DTE Energy was named to fill that position. Other members to the NFFN executive committee include Kim Campbell of TXU Energy and Elizabeth Brister of Entergy Mississippi. Sue Montgomery Corey returns to the executive committee as the Board's immediate past president.

Fuel Fund Actions

- Brenda Watson has been named director of community programs for Operation Fuel, the statewide nonprofit that provides energy assistance to Connecticut households in need. As director of community programs, Ms. Watson will coordinate Operation Fuel's network of more than 100 energy banks as well as developing and planning new programs and working on public policy and advocacy initiatives. Before joining Operation Fuel, Ms. Watson worked for the Capitol region Council of Governments, a Hartford coalition of representatives from 29 municipalities.

Utility Actions

- Peoples Natural Gas has made \$360,000 available to help low income customers having difficulty paying their energy bills. The funds are part of a \$1.9 million three year initiative designed to target customers who are not eligible to receive LIHEAP grants. The program, which runs from July 1 to October 1, will be managed by the Dollar Energy Fund and will be available to customers whose incomes are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

- Just Energy donated \$10,000 to the Care and Share Energy Fund to provide assistance to elderly and disabled residents facing energy related emergencies. The funds were presented to the American Red Cross for Central New York, which manages the program. Just Energy is a natural gas and electricity retailer with offices in several states and Canada.

- David Conn of Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. reports the utility launched a pair of pilot programs aimed at providing financial incentives to help limited income customers improve their on-time bill payment and conserve energy. BGE, a Constellation Energy company, is teaming up with the Dollar Energy Fund of Pittsburgh to provide telephone-based payment counseling services to some of the 1,800 customers in the two pilots, along with bill credits and rate discounts to encourage timely payment and energy conservation. The pilots will run through April 2011, followed by an evaluation to see if the programs can be offered to all of BGE's limited income customers.

State Government Actions

- The New Mexico Human Services Department has been awarded a \$385,000

Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Program (REACH) grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. The grant will help low income families in rural New Mexico who use propane and wood burning stoves for heat. Households will be eligible to receive funds to help with the purchase of fuel, assistance with the cost of installation and safety inspections, a home energy audit, assistance with repairs and help with improving energy efficiency in homes.

Foundation Grants

· The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation Board of Trustees approved a \$35,000 grant to the Salvation Army to provide rent and energy assistance to those in need in the Kanawha Valley.

George Coling, Executive Director
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