



Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor / Jack Lavin, Director

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Governor Blagojevich Releases Additional Funding To Help Residents Pay For Winter Heating Bills

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR **NEWS**

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH - GOVERNOR

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Governor Blagojevich Releases Additional Funding to help Residents Pay for Winter Heating Bills

\$2 million in additional Heating Assistance on its way

LIHEAP Expected to Benefit over 300,000 Illinois Households

CHICAGO -- Governor Rod R. Blagojevich today announced the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in Illinois will have an additional \$2 million for the winter season. The added funds will allow the program to serve an additional 4,000 households across the state.

"As temperatures drop and snowflakes begin falling, calls for assistance have gone up," said Governor Blagojevich. "Families who can't afford to pay their bills will now have some extra help. LIHEAP is another way we can ensure our families are warm and safe this winter".

Total funding for LIHEAP this winter is approximately \$146 million, with \$79 million from the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant and \$67 million from the state's Supplemental Low Income Home Energy Assistance fund. LIHEAP funds are administered through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

"The continued volatility of natural gas prices and the uncertainty of the Illinois winter means heating bills could unexpectedly rise putting our low-income residents at-risk," said DCEO Director Jack Lavin. "These additional funds released by the Governor will allow us to meet those increased demands."

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The energy assistance program is geared to households with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. A family of one can have a monthly income of no more than \$1,123, a two person household no more than \$1,515 and a family of four an income no greater than \$2,300. Benefits are provided directly to the household's gas or electric utility or delivered fuel dealer for households that heat with fuel oil or propane.

Benefits include payments to utilities or fuel dealers on behalf of eligible households to help reduce energy bills, and emergency assistance to help disconnected households regain energy services. In limited instances where heat is included in rent, and rent is greater than 30 percent of a household's income, a small cash payment may be made directly to the household.

LIHEAP is operated throughout the state by a network of local agencies that work with utilities, determine eligibility and provide benefits to households. Anyone wishing to apply should contact the local agency in the county where they live. Additional assistance is available by calling the toll-free LIHEAP information line at 1-800-252-8643.

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Local Agencies providing LIHEAP assistance:

BCMW Community Services, Inc.
909 E. Rexford Street in Centralia
618/594-4146

Counties Served: Bond, Clinton, Marion and Washington

Carver Community Action Agency
235 E. Main Street in Galesburg
309/342-0158

County Served: Knox

C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation
1805 S. Banker Street in Effingham

217/342-2193

Counties Served: Christian, Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Montgomery, Moultrie and Shelby

Central Illinois Economic Development Corp.

1800 5th Street in Lincoln

217/732-2159

Counties Served: DeWitt, Logan, Mason, Menard and Piatt

Community and Economic Dev. Association of Cook County, Inc. (CEDA)

208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 850 in Chicago

312/207-5444 or 312/795-8844

Suburban Cook County (Outside City of Chicago)

CEDA-Chicago Project

208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 850 in Chicago

312/207-5444 or 312/795-8844

City of Chicago

Community Contacts, Inc.

1035 E. State Street in Geneva

630/232-7600 (Kane)

815/758-3835 (DeKalb)

Counties Served: DeKalb and Kane

Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corp.

1122 E. Marietta Street in Decatur

217/428-0155

County Served: Macon

DuPage County Dept. of Human Resources

421 N. County Farm Road in Wheaton

630/682-7000

County Served: DuPage

East Central Illinois Community Action Agency, Inc.

56 N. Vermilion Street in Danville

217/433-2705

Counties Served: Ford, Iroquois and Vermilion

Embarras River Basin Agency, Inc.

400 W. Pleasant

217/923-3113

Counties Served: Clark, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Jasper, Lawrence and Richland

Fulton County Health Dept.

700 East Oak Street in Canton

309/647-1134

County Served: Fulton

Illinois Valley Economic Development Corporation

223 S. Macoupin in Gillespie

217/839-4431

Counties Served: Calhoun, Greene, Jersey and Macoupin

Kankakee County Community Services, Inc.

657 East Court Street

815/933-7883

County Served: Kankakee

Kendall-Grundy Community Action

500A Countryside Center in Yorkville

630/553-9100 (Kendall)

815/941-3262 (Grundy)

Counties Served: Grundy and Kendall

Community Action Partnership of Lake County

102-106 S. Sheridan Road in Waukegan

847/249-4330

County Served: Lake

Madison County Community Development

130 Hillsboro Avenue, Suite 102 in Edwardsville

618/692-6200

County Served: Madison

McHenry County Housing Authority

1108 N. Seminary in Woodstock

815/338-7752

County Served: McHenry

MCS Community Services

345 W. State Street in Jacksonville

217/243-9404

Counties Served: Cass, Morgan and Scott

Mid Central Community Action, Inc.

923 E. Grove Street in Bloomington

309/829-0691 (McLean)

815/844-3201 (Livingston)

Counties Served: Livingston and McLean

Northwestern Illinois Community Action Agency
103-109 N. Chicago Avenue in Freeport
815/232-3141
Counties Served: JoDaviess and Stephenson

Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc.
711 W. McBean Street in Peoria
309/671-3900
County Served: Peoria

Project NOW, Inc.
418 19th Street in Rock Island
309/852-4565
Counties Served: Henry, Mercer and Rock Island

Rockford Human Services Department
612 N. Church in Rockford
815/987-5782
Counties Served: Boone and Winnebago

Sangamon County Department of Community Resources
200 S. 9th Street, Room 311 in Springfield
217/535-3120
County Served: Sangamon

Shawnee Development Council, Inc.
530 W. Washington in Karnak
618/634-2201
Counties Served: Alexander, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski and Union

St. Clair County Community Action Agency
19 Public Square, Suite 200 in Belleville
618/277-6790
27 N. Illinois Street in Belleville
618/257-9246
County Served: St. Clair

Tazwood Community Services, Inc
Field Shopping Center, 2005 S. Main Street in Morton
309/266-9941
Counties Served: Tazewell and Woodford

Tri-County Opportunities Council
405 Emmons Avenue in Rock Falls
815/625-7830

Counties Served: Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark and Whiteside

Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials

1891 Maine Street, Suite 4 in Quincy

217/224-8171

Counties Served: Adams, Brown, Pike and Schuyler

Urban League of Champaign County

314 S. Neil Street in Champaign

217/363-3333

County Served: Champaign

Crosswalk Community Action Agency

410 W. Main Street in West Frankfort

618/937-3581

Counties Served: Franklin, Jefferson and Williamson

Wabash Area Development, Inc.

110 Latham Street in Enfield

618/965-3458

Counties Served: Edwards, Gallatin, Hamilton, Saline, Wabash, Wayne and White

Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council

1 Industrial Park in Steeleville

618/939-8715

Counties Served: Jackson, Monroe, Perry and Randolph

Western Illinois Regional Council

223 S. Randolph Street in Macomb

309/837-2997

Counties Served: Hancock, Henderson, McDonough, and Warren

Will County Center for Community Concerns

304 N. Scott Street in Joliet

815/722-0722

County Served: Will

The Hearing impaired may access all numbers through the State TDD Relay: 800/526-0844.

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