

## **Energy Assistance Resources**

Below is a list of agencies and organizations that may be able to provide energy assistance to those in need. Each has guidelines for eligibility that can be accessed by contacting the agencies below.

Many of the programs begin taking names and information in the fall. Keep in mind that they are limited in the total amount of funds they have available to distribute, so it is best to contact them early in the heating season.

### **Low Income Home Energy Program (LIHEAP) - Worcester Community Action Council**

(WCAC) 800-545-4577 or 508-754-1176 Ext. 110 or 114

- Federal program
- Individuals & families up to 200% of the poverty level
- Amount varies by client income
- **Verifications required**

### **Weatherization Assistance Program - WCAC (800-545-4577 or 508-754-1176 Ext. 110 or 114)**

- Federal program
- Will install weather-stripping and insulation for homeowners and renters
- **For LIHEAP clients**

### **Appliance Management Program - WCAC (800-545-4577 or 508-754-1176 Ext. 110 or 114)**

- Federal and local utility program
- Provide a home energy survey
- Review usage
- Replace refrigerator or freezer
- Energy conservation improvements available

### **Heatwrap - WCAC (800-545-4577 or 508-754-1176 Ext. 110 or 114)**

- Federal program
- For homeowners only
- For those receiving LIHEAP
- Help clients repair their heating system

### **Arrearage Management Program -WCAC (800-545-4577 or 508-754-1176 Ext. 110 or 114)**

WCAC and utility funded

Payment plan for clients who are in arrears

May forgive up to \$1000

Individuals and families up to 200% of the poverty level

### **Good Neighbor Energy Fund - Salvation Army – Contact Barbar Search at theSturbridge**

COA 508-347-7575

- Individuals and families from 200% - 275% of poverty level
- Application requires verification of income
- Assistance is \$275
- **Must have outstanding bill**

**Citizens Energy** – 877-563-4645 Assistance provided is \$150 for natural gas or a one-time oil delivery of 100 gallons for those receiving LIHEAP

Those not on LIHEAP must provide the following:

- Annual income
- # in household > 65 yrs.,
- # in household <18 yrs.,
- # in household <5 yrs.,
- Applicant must also state their financial hardship
- **No income verification required**

**Catholic Charities – Southbridge** – 508-765-5936

- All utilities, rent, food
- Assistance \$75 - \$85 depends on average from previous year as to how many people needed help and the funds available
- **Intake form – reason for non-payment**

**The Light**

- Client must go to Catholic Charities first – 508-765-5936
- Emergency assistance \$75 - \$100 for gas or electric, \$100 for oil
- **Negotiate with utility provider**

Keep in mind as well that many local churches, provide assistance to the members of their congregation, so please reach out to your Pastor, Priest, or appropriate representative.