ENERGY ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

How to apply for Crisis Intervention Program and Low Income Energy Assistance Programs

- In person at <u>local Department of Social Services</u>
- Paper applications can be submitted by mail or email at local Department of Social Services

Crisis Intervention Program (CIP):

- Assists individuals and families who experience a heating or cooling related crisis.
- Face to face interview is not required.
- Applicants must have a past due, final notice or have no primary source of heating or cooling source and must have a health related or life-threatening emergency to potentially qualify under this program.
 - o Temperatures could cause someone's life to be threatened without a heating or cooling source
 - Young child or elderly individual in the home could be at risk
- CIP payments are paid directly to the heating or cooling provider.
- Households eligible for up to \$600 per state fiscal year
- Basic eligibility criteria:
 - Have at least one US citizen or non-citizen who meets eligibility criteria.
 - o Meet the income test (150% FPL).
 - Have an energy related crisis such as a past due bill or discontinue notice for primary heating or cooling source.
 - Have a utility statement showing how much is owed to alleviate the crisis.
- Total CIP Allocation available to counties \$40,298,637
 - \$5 Million made available to counties on July 1, 2020
 - \$35,298,637 available to counties on July 22, 2020

Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP):

- Assists individuals and families to help pay their heating bills.
- Assistance is in the form of a one-time payment made directly to the heating provider.
- Households including person age 60 or older or disabled receiving services through NC Division of Aging and Adult Services are eligible to apply from December 1 to March 31 each year.
- All other households, including those with persons age 60 or older or disabled receiving services through NC Division of Aging and Adult Services, are eligible to apply from January 1 to March 31 each year.
- Basic eligibility criteria:
 - Have at least one US citizen or non-citizen who meets eligibility criteria.
 - Meet the income test (130% FPL).
 - Have liquid resources less than \$2,250.00.
 - Be responsible for their heating costs.
 - Households are eligible for \$300, \$400 or \$500 per state fiscal year, amount is determined by the household size, income and primary heating source.
- \$40,298,637 will be available to counties December 1, 2020 to assist with heating needs
- Approximately \$18 Million available to counties November 1, 2020 from CARES Funding for heating needs

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

How to Apply for Community Services Block Grant Programs.

- In person at local Community Action Agencies https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity.
- Contact Community Action Agencies for intake application.

CARES Act Funds:

- Assists individuals and families with a range of emergency assistance activities including employment, education, health, food, transportation and housing among other activities.
- Targets individuals and families that have income below 200% of the poverty rate and unmet needs as a result of COVID-19.
- Directory of Community Action Agencies and poverty guidelines can be located at https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity.
- Total CARES NC Allocation \$26,243,124
 - o \$23,618,812 made available to Community Action Agencies on June 1, 2020

Standard CSBG:

- Helps low-income individuals and families at or below 200% of the federal poverty level achieve selfsufficiency and improve social and economic well-being.
- Eligible activities are employment, housing, child-care, food, health care, case management and emergency assistance among other services.
- Directory of Community Action Agencies and poverty guidelines can be located at https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity.
- Total Standard CSBG Allocation \$21,088,498
 - \$18,979,648 made available to Community Action Agencies on July 1, 2020

Information Links: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/office-economic-opportunity

https://www.nccaa.net/

Also, individuals can call **NC 2-1-1** to learn of resources in their communities for emergency needs, including utility assistance. Simply dial 2-1-1.