

BERNIE SANDERS

UNITED STATES SENATOR *for* VERMONT



As the weather gets colder and heating costs go up, some Vermonters will have a hard time keeping warm this winter. If you or someone you know is struggling to pay for heat, ***help may be available:***

SEASONAL FUEL ASSISTANCE: This program helps income eligible homeowners and renters pay for heat. Even if heat is included in your rent, you could be eligible for fuel assistance *and* it could even increase your monthly 3SquaresVT benefit. Funded through the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the average fuel benefit is around \$879 this year. If you received fuel assistance last year, you should have received a renewal form in the mail. ***You can apply on-line at <http://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/fuel-assistance>, at your local Economic Services Division office, or by calling 800-479-6151.***

CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE: If you are almost out of fuel and don't have money to buy more, this program can help pay for fuel, to repair or replace your furnace, negotiate a payment plan, and avoid electric or gas disconnections. ***Apply in person at your local Community Action Program (<http://vermontcap.org/>).*** Call first to find out what information you need to bring. If you are elderly or disabled, you may be able to apply over phone.

PROJECT WARMTH: WARMTH helps families pay for fuel and utility bills, and offers information and counseling. ***To apply, contact your local Community Action Program.***

UTILITY ASSISTANCE: Green Mountain Power and Vermont Gas both have programs to help low-income Vermonters heat and light their homes. ***Call 1-800-775-0516 to apply, or visit www.energyhelp.vt.gov.***

EMERGENCY/GENERAL ASSISTANCE: This program may be able to help if you do not have enough money to meet an emergency heating, housing, medical, personal or burial need. ***Apply in person at your local district Economic Services Division office.***

If you have questions, please call Senator Bernie Sanders' office at 1-800-339-9834