

Butler County Emergency Relief Initiative



United Way of Butler County

Mission: To complement existing agencies in meeting essential needs of Butler County residents whose lives have been affected by a significant emergency. Essential needs include utilities, food, housing, personal prescription medication, transportation.

TURN DOWN. SEAL OFF. SAVE UP.

TURN SEAL SAVE is the Statewide Stay Warm Campaign. Good information is available on the TurnSealSave.org website.

- Turn** your thermostat to 65 degrees during the day and 60 degrees at night to save as much as \$500 per year. Turning your water heater to 115 degrees can save \$20 per year.
- Seal** windows with caulking and doors with weather stripping. Close vents in unused rooms. Use heavy curtains. Add insulation. Check out the energy efficient tax credit at www.irs.gov or call 1-800-829-1040 or 724-282-4531.
- Save** as much as \$740 per year by taking these small steps.

Visit TurnSealSave.org

DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE!

If you know you may fall behind in fuel or utility payments or at the first sign of falling behind, call your fuel provider to work out a plan. Don't think that the problem will go away or you will be able to catch up next month. **CALL NOW.**

Utility Assistance Programs:

Allegheny Power	1-800-255-3443	National Fuel	1-800-365-3234
Central Electric	1-800-521-0570	Penn Power	1-800-720-3600
Columbia Gas	1-800-537-7431	PA American Water	1-866-430-0823
Dominion People	1-800-764-0111	TW Phillips Gas & Oil	1-866-276-4055

For those falling into foreclosure or debt collection proceedings...

DON'T IGNORE THE NOTICES. Seek legal counsel. The courts can't help you if you don't object.

- Neighborhood Legal Services: 724-282-3888 palawhelp.org
- Taxpayer Advocate Service: 1-877-777-4778 or 412-395-5987

FOR BUDGET OR CREDIT COUNSELING, OR A FREE CREDIT REPORT, CONTACT JENNIFER AT THE BUTLER COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY BY CALLING 724-287-6797.

GET HELP!

- **LIHEAP (Low Income Heating Assistance Program) 2008-2009: 724-284-8844 or 1-866-256-0093**
(Call for guidelines and application.) Helps low income people pay heating bills. Crisis and New Applications open November 3, 2008-March 31, 2009. **CRISIS can help resolve heating emergencies (724-284-8844).**
- **PA Weather Assistance Program: 1-800--379-7448**
If you are low-income, elderly or a handicapped resident, call for a home energy audit to find weatherization culprits!
- **Utility Integrated Point of Contact: 1-800-481-3653**
Center for Community Resources (724-431-0095) offers the **Butler County Crisis Help Line (1-800-292-3866)** to connect people to a network of supports and services.
- **Using the Butler "\$" in Your Pocket VITA Site (724-285-2260 or 724-968-0025)** to file your Federal and State Income Tax will give taxpayers earning under \$42,000 a year the **Earned Income Tax Credit Money** (up to \$4,700), which can help pay utility bills. It also saves you up to \$375 in paid preparer and early anticipation loan costs.

Need help staying warm this heating season?

For information about assistance available for utility shut-offs or threat of termination, call the **Utility Integrated Point of Contact** at:

1-800-481-3653



WEATHERIZATION

Through the relationship with United Way of Pennsylvania, and compliments of AFSCME Council 13, free window sealing kits from Home Depot are available to Butler County residents. Install yourself or installation by volunteers is available by appointment. Call the United Way at 724-285-2260 or 1-877-605-2260.

VOLUNTEER!

The BERI would like to develop a list of church groups or businesses who might be available on a rotating basis to help residents of Butler County in need of critical home repairs such as furnace, electrical, insulation installation, etc. There is no obligation. If your group may be interested, or would like more information, please call us and we will discuss how it might work for you. Call 724-285-2260 or email impact@butlerunitedway.org.

Butler County Stay Warm Partners

The organizations listed below participate in Energy Summits three times each year to share information and develop strategies for financial stability for individuals and families that improve their ability to maintain their homes and stay warm during winter months.

If you are interested in attending the Summits, please call or email the United Way and ask to be added to the Stay Warm Partners list.

Impact@butlerunitedway.org
724-285-2260
1-877-605-2260

Allegheny Power
American Red Cross
Area Agency on Aging
Butler County Assistance Office
Butler County Children's Center
Butler County Community Action
Butler County Community College (Adult Literacy)
Butler County Court of Common Pleas
Butler County Housing Authority
Butler County Human Services
Butler County United Labor Council
Catholic Charities
Center for Community Resources
Central Electric Co-op
Columbia Gas of PA
Commissioner Dale Pinkerton
Community Alliance Church
Community Care Connections
CORA Corporation
Dollar Energy
First United Methodist Church
Grapevine Center
IRS
Mental Health Association
Meridian United Presbyterian Church
Office of Financial Education
Office of Representative Brian Ellis
Office of Senator Mary Jo White
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
ProGas Inc.
Salvation Army
St. Paul's Catholic Church
St. Paul's Community Church
St. Vincent de Paul
Steinheiser Propane, Inc.
Suburban Propane
T. W. Phillips Gas and Oil Company
The Lighthouse Foundation
United Way of Butler County
VNA
VOICe

GIVE HELP!

You Can Help! Keep People Warm With A Tax Deductible Gift To:

Butler County Emergency Relief Initiative
325 New Castle Road, Bldg. 11A
Butler, PA 16001

The Emergency Relief Fund provides direct utility assistance and assistance with **deliverable fuels such as propane, kerosene and heating oil.** The fund is accessed when all other sources have been exhausted. The fund is managed by the United Way of Butler County. However, the BERI Oversight Committee monitors the use of the funds. Access is through the Utility Integrated Point of Contact at the Center for Community Resources by calling 1-800-481-3653.



BERI Oversight Committee

Commissioner Dale Pinkerton
County of Butler
Chairman

Lori Altman
County of Butler

Corita Bauldoff, Retired
Butler County Assistance Office

Reverend Harry Bielewicz
St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, Butler

Bryan Colbert
TW Phillips Gas and Oil Company

Betty Cordray
Meridian United Presbyterian Church

Reverend Randall Forester
St. Paul's Community Church,
Chicora

Reverend Bruce Geary, Retired
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Butler

Fred Heintz
Neighborhood Legal Services

Honorable Marilyn Horan
County of Butler

Susan Jeffries
Center for Community Resources

Deborah McAllister
Butler County Community College

Leslie Osche
United Way of Butler County

Reverend Bob Thomas
Community Alliance Church, Butler

Richard Wilson
CORA Corporation

DOLLAR ENERGY

Help low-income families by making a tax-deductible gift to Dollar Energy Fund. There are many ways to give.

1. Add a dollar to your utility bill. TW Phillips Gas and Oil Company and Allegheny Energy will match every dollar donated to the Dollar Energy Fund's hardship program. Contact your utility company or watch your bill flyers for more information.
2. Donate directly by mailing a check made payable to the Dollar Energy Fund at Box 42329, Pittsburgh, PA 15203.
3. Donate online. Visit www.dollarenergyfund.org and click on "Donate Now!"

Contact any of these agencies for information on how you can help.

<i>Catholic Charities:</i>	724-287-4011	www.ccpgh.org
<i>St. Vincent de Paul:</i>	724-287-3994	www.svdpcbtlr.org
<i>Salvation Army Butler:</i>	724-287-5532	www.salvationarmy-wpa.org
<i>Salvation Army Service Units:</i>	412-394-4850	www.salvationarmy-wpa.org
<i>The Lighthouse Foundation:</i>	724-586-5554	www.thelighthouseonline.net

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PERMIT #423
BUTLER, PA
16001

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c/o United Way of Butler County
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