

## **2017 Michigan Energy Assistance Program Grants**

On July 19, 2016 the Michigan Agency for Energy (MAE) invited proposals from public or private entities or local units of government for Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) grants that will intervene in energy crisis situations and provide energy assistance program services that will help eligible low-income households meet home energy costs for their primary residence through payment or partial payment of bills for one or more of the following: 1) electricity; 2) natural gas; 3) propane; 4) heating oil; or 5) any other deliverable fuel used to provide heat. The Request for Proposal required that proposed energy assistance programs include services that will enable participants to become or move toward becoming self-sufficient, including assisting participants in paying their energy bills on time, assisting participants in budgeting for and contributing to their ability to provide for energy expenses, and assisting participants in utilizing energy services to optimize on energy savings. The energy assistance benefits should be targeted to the neediest households with an emphasis placed on assisting the lowest income households that have the highest energy burden. The grants are funded by the state Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund (LIEAF) and the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Fifteen proposals were submitted by the August 10, 2016 deadline.

On August 24, 2016 MAE in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), approved the following Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) grants totaling \$89,500,000:

- Barry County United Way - \$201,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in Barry County.
- Consumers Energy Company - \$13,220,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in its utility service territory throughout the state of Michigan.
- DTE Energy - \$17 million to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in its utility service territory throughout the state of Michigan.
- Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc. - \$78,700 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in the Lowell School District.
- Lighthouse Emergency Services - \$200,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in Oakland County.
- Michigan Community Action Agency Association - \$9 million to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households statewide.

- North Kent Community Services - \$50,300 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in the northern region of Kent County.
- SEMCO Energy Gas Company - \$2,600,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in its utility service territory throughout the state of Michigan.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the Archdiocese of Detroit - \$5 million to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households in 36 counties throughout the state of Michigan.
- Superior Watershed Partnership - \$2,550,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households throughout the 15 counties in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.
- The Heat and Warmth fund - \$8,825,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households throughout the state of Michigan.
- The Salvation Army - \$13,700,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households statewide.
- TrueNorth Community Services - \$15,075,000 to provide energy assistance program services to low-income households throughout the state of Michigan.
- United Way of Southeastern MI - \$2 million to provide energy assistance program services to DTE Energy Company's low-income households in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties.