



STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

KARI SEDERBURG
DIRECTOR

Contact: Phil Lewis
517-927-9310 or lewisp3@michigan.gov

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State Officials, Commission on Aging Honor DTE Energy Employee for Helping Sterling Heights Senior

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) and the Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) named Cordell Green as DTE Energy's 2012 Gatekeeper of the Year, in recognition of his special efforts to assist an older adult in need.

"I want to thank Cordell Green for his thoughtfulness and his commitment and dedication to help older adults in our great state," said OSA Director Kari Sederburg. "His actions are a shining example of how the Gatekeeper program can make a difference in communities all across Michigan."

Each year DTE Energy and Consumers Energy employees are nominated for their efforts to identify and assist at-risk older adult customers age 60 and older. OSA and the CSA then select one employee each month to be named Gatekeeper of the Month, and from those employees they select a Gatekeeper of the Year – one from each organization.

Green was honored with a plaque and letter from Governor Rick Snyder along with Consumers Energy's 2012 Gatekeeper of the Year, Patrick Pillars.

Green, a field services technician, visited an older adult in Sterling Heights for a furnace repair and noticed she was in need of assistance. He made a Gatekeeper referral to a local agency, bought her a sweater on his lunch break and coordinated to find services for her dog to be groomed. The local agency completed a home visit shortly after and provided her with the supports and services she needed.

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The Gatekeeper Program is made possible through a partnership between DTE Energy, Consumers Energy and Michigan's aging network. The program identifies older adults in need through the utility company's employees who have frequent and direct contact with natural gas and electric customers. Contact OSA at 517-373-8230 or visit the [OSA website](#) for more information.