

2018 Michigan Energy Assistance Program Grants

On August 15, 2017 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. These services will help eligible low-income households meet home energy costs for their primary residence to prevent future crisis situations 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 grants are funded by the state Low-Income Energy Assistance Fund (LIEAF) and the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). At this time, the amounts being awarded are only comprised of the LIEAF funds for crisis prevention services.

Twelve proposals were submitted by the September 11, 2017 deadline.

MAE in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), approved the following MEAP grants totaling \$45,500,000:

- Barry County United Way: \$112,000, Barry County.
- Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.: \$50,000, Lowell School District.
- Michigan Community Action Agency Association: \$5 million, statewide.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the Archdiocese of Detroit: \$2.41 million; 39 counties throughout Michigan.
- Superior Watershed Partnership: \$1,6 million, 15 Upper Peninsula counties.
- The Heat and Warmth fund: \$5.578 million, statewide.
- The Salvation Army: \$9 million, statewide.
- TrueNorth Community Services: \$11 million, statewide.
- United Way of Jackson County: \$4 million, Consumers Energy customers.
- United Way of Southeastern Michigan: \$6.75 million, DTE Energy Co. customers in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties.