2024 Michigan Energy Assistance Program Grants

On May 16, 2023 the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) invited proposals from public or private entities or local units of government for Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) grants. The RFP offered a three-year grant program that runs through September 30, 2026 and sought proposals that would intervene in energy crisis situations and provide energy assistance program services. These services 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 requires 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) Assurance 16 funds.

Nine proposals were submitted by the July 10, 2023 deadline and all nine were recommended for funding. The amounts listed below are the Year One awards.

MPSC in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), approved the following MEAP grants totaling $54,500,000:

- Barry County United Way: $150,000, Barry County.
- Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity: $6 million, statewide.
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the Archdiocese of Detroit: $4.85 million; multiple counties throughout Michigan.
- Superior Watershed Partnership: $2.46 million, 15 Upper Peninsula counties, and multiple Northern-Lower Peninsula counties.
- The Heat and Warmth Fund: $6.8 million, statewide.
- The Salvation Army: $11.28 million, statewide.
- TrueNorth Community Services: $11.2 million, statewide.
- United Way for Southeastern Michigan: $6.46 million, statewide.
- United Way Ventures LLC/United Way of South Central MI: $5.3 million, statewide.