

MEDIA RELEASE

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Source: Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph

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Summer utilities assistance begins June 1

LIHEAP will help with electric bills and provide air conditioners and fans

(May 27, 2010—St. Joseph, Mo.) On June 1, Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph’s Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will begin for all families who meet program requirements. This program provides emergency assistance to families whose electricity is either in danger of disconnect or already shut off.

Utilities costs can be a burden for many families in the summer, who may face electricity shut-off leading into the hottest parts of summer.

“We have found, more and more, that utilities needs are a year-round problem for those struggling to make ends meet,” says Delphia Shanks, Director of Community Development at Community Action Partnership. “Many are still struggling to pay off winter heating bills when summer comes around with higher rates and higher electricity needs.”

For summer utilities, the LIHEAP program can help those with a disconnect notice for electricity avoid disconnect or get their electricity turned back on. It can provide an air conditioner out of available funds for those with a doctor’s note or who are over 65. Qualifying households are also eligible to receive a fan.

To be eligible for this credit, an individual must make less than \$1218 per month. For households with more members, eligibility is as follows:

Household Size	Monthly Income
1	\$1218
2	\$1639
3	\$2060
4	\$2481
Add \$421 for each additional person in household.	

Applicants will need to call in advance to make an appointment, as applications take 30-45 minutes. Please call (816) 233-8281. Summer LIHEAP hours of assistance are 9:00-3:30.

Applicants will need to bring proof of income for their entire household, social security cards for all residents in their household, the disconnect notice from their utility company if they have one and proof of age if over 65 years old.

For more information about LIHEAP or Community Action Partnership, please contact Community Action Partnership at (816) 233-8281.