

### **Home-Heating Assistance**

Now that the weather is turning colder and winter is again upon us, I would like to take a minute to tell you about the programs available for energy and heating assistance. The programs described are now open to new participants. Due to an increase in federal funding, more households than ever before will be able to receive a helping hand.

I urge you to take advantage of this assistance. With many struggling in this economy, help is available to make sure your family is both warm and safe this winter.

I wish you and your family a happy holiday season, and a healthy start to the new year.

Michelle Cook

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Connecticut General Assembly

www.housedems.ct.gov/Cook

## MICHELLE COOK

**State Representative** 

Representing Torrington 65<sup>th</sup> House District

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# State Representative MICHELLE COOK

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#### **Connecticut Energy Assistance Program** (CEAP)

Depending on circumstances, a household can qualify for up to \$880 in energy assistance for the winter months. This program is available for both homeowners and renters and is intended to pay for your primary heating bills.

CEAP also helps households with elderly or disabled residents pay for their heating costs.

#### **Contingency Heating Assistance Program** (CHAP)

For those with household incomes too large to qualify for CEAP, the Contingency Heating Assistance Program can help pay for energy bills. The maximum benefit for CHAP is up to \$580 in assistance.

#### **Weatherization Assistance Program**

This program provides free assistance in weatherizing your home or apartment. You may qualify for services such as insulating your walls or attic, installing storm windows, or servicing your heating system. The application for this program is the same as the application for CEAP & CHAP.

Size of Household	CEAP Income Limit *	CHAP Income Limit **
1	under \$16,245	under \$30,485
2	under \$21,855	under \$39,865
3	under \$27,465	under \$49,245
4	under \$33,075	under \$58,625
5	under \$38,685	under \$68,005
6	under \$44,295	under \$77,385
7	under \$49,905	under \$79,144

<sup>\*</sup> Income allowances for homes with elderly or disabled residents are higher.

#### **How To Apply**

Applications for heating and energy assistance are handled through local Community Action Agencies. Torrington residents should contact:

New Opportunities, Inc. | 203.756.8151 138 Migeon Avenue – Torrington

#### 211 Infoline

- Infoline is a toll-free help line that is available 24 hours a day.
- It's the confidential, free and multilingual way to locate services in your area—legal assistance, child care services, elder care, energy assistance, suicide prevention, eligibility requirements for state programs, substance abuse, domestic violence, etc.
- Caseworkers are trained in crisis intervention.
- Infoline is not for emergency police, fire or medical assistance.

#### **Request a Meeting**

I strive to always make myself available for my constituents. If you have an issue or concern that you would feel more comfortable discussing in person, please do not hesitate to call and schedule a meeting with me.

I am happy to meet either in Torrington or Hartford, at a time convenient for you.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Household Size – including homeowners and renters that pay separately for heat. At this level, renters are not eligible if heat is included in the rent.