Welcome to LIHEAP Action Day Virtual Event 2021

Introduction to energy advocacy on Capitol Hill
Thank you to our 2021 sponsors!

**Legacy**
- TVA EnergyRight

**Leader**
- AGA American Gas Association
- PG&E

**Champion**
- EEI Edison Electric Institute
- SMUD Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- SoCalGas Sempra Energy - sby

**Supporter**
- Atmos Energy
- BGE Argentine Gas Energy
- Citizens Energy Group
- ComEd An Exelon Company
- Dominion Energy
- Duke Energy
- Entergy
- National Grid
- PECO An Exelon Company
- Pepco Holdings An Exelon Company
- SRP
- TXU Energy

**Friend**
- CenterPoint Energy
- ConEdison
- Consumers Energy Count on Us
- DTE
- FPL
- NRECA
- New Jersey Natural Gas
- Spire
- Tacoma Public Utilities
- TECO An Energa Company
- Washington Gas

**Patron**
- Alliant Energy
- Applied Pulse Energy Research
- APPRISE
- bidgely
- FirstEnergy
- Operation Fuel
More thank yous...

- **NEUAC Board of Directors** – for support and leadership
- **NEUAC Executive Committee** – for overseeing all decisions and being amazingly responsive
- **NEUAC Public Policy and Advocacy Committee and Chairs** – for helping steer and develop this event every year
- **State Team Leaders** – HUGE thanks for the donation of your time and energy, which make this event possible
Thank you...  

NEUAC Public Policy and Advocacy Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brian Caudill</td>
<td>AGA - CHAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billie Kaumaya</td>
<td>NRECA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Wolfe</td>
<td>NEADA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Gray</td>
<td>NASCSP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Godfrey</td>
<td>APPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Carroll</td>
<td>APPRISE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Rinebolt</td>
<td>OPAE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe Ahlstrom</td>
<td>Consumers Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silvia Aldana</td>
<td>PG&amp;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faye Kinner</td>
<td>Atmos Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ariel Drehobl</td>
<td>ACEEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Temme</td>
<td>SRP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorena Shah</td>
<td>Opportunity Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Diamond</td>
<td>MASSCAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britton Gabel</td>
<td>OPPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jess Jubran</td>
<td>EEI – former Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Sullivan</td>
<td>Berkshire-Hathaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chere Coleman</td>
<td>MICAA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Thach</td>
<td>ASE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith Baltierrez</td>
<td>City of Avondale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Griffin</td>
<td>Energy Fairness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanasia Poke</td>
<td>National Grid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Bradford</td>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Whitworth</td>
<td>Florida Power and Light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liz Berube</td>
<td>Citizens for Citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Schryver</td>
<td>APGA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haly Laasme</td>
<td>Delaware Office of Community Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Strickland</td>
<td>Lumbee Tribe of NC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you...

LIHEAP Action Day State Team Leaders

Connie Sanchez, Spire
Shannon Panos, Spire
Bonnie Temme, Salt River Project
Nick Quinones, Salt River Project
Terry Beardon, Arkansas Community Action
Agencies Association
Silvia Aldana, PGE
Celia Andrade, PACE
Andrew Hawkins, Xcel Energy
Cindy Ventresca, Delmarva Power
Gerri Drummond, TECO
Mike Bradford, Salvation Army
Mike Sullivan, Berkshire Hathaway Energy
Tiffany Scott, WEC Energy Group
Emily Baxter, CenterPoint/Vectren
Willie Lyles III, Duke Energy
Patricia King, PECO

Tom Craig, Duke Energy
Jennifer Stettner, Washington Gas
Liz Berube, Citizens for Citizens
Chere Coleman, MI Community Action
Andrew Hawkins, Xcel Energy
Steve Plevniak, Xcel Energy
Ariel Wann, Xcel Energy
Connie Sanchez, Spire
Shannon Panos, Spire
Michael Sullivan, Berkshire Hathaway
Maria Delaplain, New Jersey Natural Gas
Tanya Jones, HeartShare Human Svcs
Jamie Matese, National Grid
Carrie Perry, Dominion Energy
Meredith Gray, Dominion Energy
Emily Duncan, National Grid
Jacquie Moss, TEPRI
#NEUACHighfive...

- Jacquie Moss, TEPRI and Texas attendees
- Michael Sullivan, Berkshire-Hathaway
- Annie Doran, Volunteer
- Bridget Doran, IT Consultant Extraordinaire
- Erica Lambert, Operations Director aka Knower-of-All-the-Things
LAD By the Numbers

- Attendees: 237
- 36 States
- 126+ meetings with legislators
- Most attendees:
  - Massachusetts - 26
  - New Jersey - 25
  - New York - 19
  - Michigan - 19
  - Maryland - 19
Current Events: Deadly Deep Freeze

- 69 people have died as of 2/20/21
- More than a dozen in homes that lost their heat
- Dallas last Tuesday - 4 degrees F, colder than Anchorage, AK
- Natural gas - ^^^ $3/MMBtu to $300+/MMBtu
- 4.3 million with no electric at height of the crisis
- $18 billion in insured damages
- 14.9 million without safe drinking water
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Appropriations

- Previously, $900 million to address COVID19 in CARES Act
- $10 million increase FY21 regular funds – $3.75 billion
- $25 billion Emergency Rental/Utility Assistance

- $10 billion supplemental request – Reconciliation process
- $4.5 billion supplemental funds proposed by House

Nearly **6 million households were served** in 2019
36 million households were eligible (about 1/6 served)

The mission of LIHEAP is to assist low income households, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, to help meet their immediate home energy needs.
How did we get here?
Where do things stand?
Where do we want to go?
Ready, Set, Advocate!

Katrina Metzler
Executive Director
NEUAC
Anatomy of an Advocacy Meeting

- **Introductions**
  
  Brief, make a personal connection if you have one

- **Answer:** What is LIHEAP?

- **Present how LIHEAP serves constituents in their district/state**

- **Answer:** What made YOU come here today to support LIHEAP?

- **What do you want from the member?**

- **Ask:** Do you have any questions for us?

- **Thank them**
Who is in charge of...
What shouldn’t we say or do?
Data makes the world go ‘round

- The $900 million in supplemental funds provided for LIHEAP in the CARES Act are now **fully obligated**, and have been able to reach only a fraction of those households that need support.
- Reflecting the rapidly changing conditions, NEADA estimates that **15 to 20 percent of residential customers are at least 60 days behind on their utility bills**.
- More than 1/4 of those who lost jobs during the COVID-19 crisis reported **skipping or needing to skip a utility bill payment**.
- Electric and natural gas arrearages were expected to reach **$32 billion** by the end of 2020, based on an analysis by The National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA).
128 times.
More than **45 million Americans filed for unemployment** during the crisis, many of whom remain unemployed or under-employed and are now eligible for LIHEAP.

In some states, **1 in 3 households is behind on utility bills**.

22% of utility customers reported that they had **reduced or put off expenses for basic needs like medicine and food** in order to pay their utility bills.

More than **60% of U.S. K-12 schools reopened virtually** for the 2020-2021 school year, underscoring the importance of energy affordability to education access for millions of children.

**42% of the U.S. labor force is working from home fulltime**, with many others suffering job loss or reduction of hours. Access to power is critical to maintaining work for the remaining household member(s).
LIHEAP POLICY PRIORITIES

Resources Necessary to Address Energy Insecurity

- $5.1 billion in FY2022 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- At least $4.5 billion in supplemental LIHEAP funding. Estimated LIHEAP funding needed to address the economic impacts of COVID-19 on residential energy burden across the U.S. is $10 billion.

PROGRAM NOTES
- Expand eligibility to 80% of the State Median Income or 200% of Federal Poverty Level to maximize assistance availability
- Establish an administration threshold of 15% to ensure adequate support for expanded LIHEAP, including resources for outreach to newly eligible households

Escalating Need for Energy Assistance in the Time of COVID-19

LIHEAP is a critical, life-saving program that targets and serves the most vulnerable — older Americans, individuals with disabilities, and children. The majority of these families and individuals survive on less than $20,000 per year; many are on a fixed income. Their pay does not increase when the cost of heating and cooling their homes increases. Living at the lowest levels of poverty, recipients of these funds make choices every day between food, medicine, or utilities — choices exacerbated by COVID-19.

LIHEAP helps to stabilize families and protects people from dying of exposure in their own homes in the winter, keeps electricity flowing to life-saving equipment for those with medical needs, and helps ensure that children do not have to complete their homework in the dark. It prevents disconnection of service, helps families maintain their housing, and restores dignity by helping customers pay bills in full and on time.

Documenting the Deepening Energy Burden Crisis

- The $900 million in supplemental funds provided for LIHEAP in the CARES Act are now fully obligated, and have been able to reach only a fraction of those households that need support.
- Electric and natural gas arrearages were expected to reach $32 billion by the end of 2020, based on an analysis by The National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA). Reflecting the rapidly changing conditions, NEADA estimates that 15 to 20 percent of residential customers are at least 60 days behind on their utility bills.
- More than 1/4 of those who lost jobs during the COVID-19 crisis reported skipping or needing to skip a utility bill payment.
- More than 45 million Americans filed for unemployment during the crisis, many of whom remain unemployed or under-employed and are now eligible for LIHEAP.
- In some states, 1 in 3 households is behind on utility bills.
- 22% of utility customers reported that they had reduced or put off expenses for basic needs like medicine and food in order to pay their utility bills.
- More than 60% of U.S. K-12 schools reopened virtually for the 2020-2021 school year, underscoring the importance of energy affordability to education access for millions of children.
- 42% of the U.S. labor force is now working from home fulltime, with many others suffering job loss or reduction of hours. Access to power is critical to maintaining work for the remaining household members.

Facts About LIHEAP

- According to the NEADA National Energy Assistance Survey of LIHEAP recipient households in 2018,
  - 9 out of 10 households have a person vulnerable to temperature extremes because of age or disability.
  - The same persons most vulnerable to serious complications from COVID-19 according to the Centers for Disease Control
  - 1 in 3 households have a child younger than 18
  - 1 in 3 households report that they went without food for at least one day in the past year.
  - 3 out of 10 households reported using their kitchen stove to heat their home at least once in the past year. LIHEAP can help families avoid dangerous practices like this in the winter season.
  - 1 in 4 households could not afford to fix or replace the broken furnace or cooling system in their home. LIHEAP can help repair and replace broken systems, keeping homes temperate, safe, and energy efficient as families are forced to shelter in place.
- The economic repercussions of the pandemic will be felt deep into the winter months and beyond, especially since recovery takes longer or never reaches those at LIHEAP eligibility levels.

Questions? Email info@neuac.org

NEUAC is a leader in the fields of public policy, advocacy, energy and poverty issues. NEUAC currently serves more than 200 member organizations that span the nation, providing tools to advocate for LIHEAP and other funding to support low-income families. The organization bridges the gap between states, social service organizations, and government to empower them to work together and learn from each other in times of energy and poverty crisis.

Sources
PROTECT LIHEAP IN 2021

Texas By the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Texas LIHEAP funding down</th>
<th>Gross LIHEAP allocation to Texas in 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.16%</td>
<td>$161,003,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from FY10 to FY19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of households eligible for LIHEAP in Texas</th>
<th># of low-income households that received LIHEAP in Texas in 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,109,662</td>
<td>149,352</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only 7.08% of the total eligible population in Texas received LIHEAP in 2019.

80.93% of LIHEAP recipients in Texas have at least one vulnerable member:
- Elderly over 60: 42.74%
- Disabled: 54.29%
- Child under 6: 17.29%

Federal home heating/cooling assistance saves Texas lives.
NEUAC urges Congress to protect LIHEAP funding for FY21.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why Protect LIHEAP Funding?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides critical home heating and cooling help to millions of vulnerable American families. LIHEAP funding peaked when Congress appropriated $5.1 billion for the program in FY09 and FY10. Since then, funding has fallen by more than one-third. Because of these cuts, one million fewer eligible households receive energy assistance, and average individual grants have been reduced.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIHEAP is not an entitlement.
Unlike entitlement programs, LIHEAP is funded by the annual congressional appropriations process. While states set eligibility rates, federal statute limits household income to a maximum of 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline, or 60 percent of the state median income. Except for LIHEAP recipients earn much less than the maximum thresholds: the latest data show that a typical LIHEAP recipient household had a median income of 83.5 percent of the federal poverty guideline.

The need for LIHEAP remains high.
In 2018, the national poverty rate was 11.5 percent, and 38.1 million Americans lived in poverty.

LIHEAP prioritizes vulnerable households.
More than 90 percent of LIHEAP recipient households have at least one vulnerable person - a senior aged 60 or older, a child aged 18 or under, or an individual with a disability.

LIHEAP makes the difference.
The Federal Reserve found that nearly half of American families would struggle to pay for an emergency expense costing $400. LIHEAP frequently meets those exact short-term emergencies and can be the difference between making ends meet or not.

Protect LIHEAP.

Sources:
1. FY10-FY15 Data, HHFA. FY2019 reflects preliminary data pending final data validation.
2. Eligible household/household size and vulnerable household statistics supplied from state reports and are preliminary for FY2019.
3. NEAED funding授权方：State.

http://neuac.org/liheap-state-by-state-metrics/
Take Action!
END ENERGY POVERTY
neuac
NATIONAL ENERGY AND UTILITY AFFORDABILITY COALITION
LIHEAP Action Day 2021
NEUAC 2021 Extra Mile Awardee

Senator John Hoeven, ND
Social Media

- Twitter: @theNEUAC
  #LIHEAP, #FuelFunds, #LIHEAPAction
  #FacesofLIHEAP, #ProtectLIHEAP, #NEUACHighfive
  #FundLIHEAP

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/neuaccoalition

- LIHEAP Social Media Graphics
State Directors Update

Mark Wolfe
Executive Director
National Energy Assistance Directors Association
Questions?

Katrina Metzler
Executive Director
National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC)
Cell (call or text): 740-248-9177

info@neuac.org
http://neuac.org/advocacy
Prepare to huddle, state teams!

✓ Plan for your visits
✓ Work on your elevator speeches
✓ Think about a personal story or video
✓ Assign roles
✓ Share contact info
✓ Answer any questions