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NATIONAL ENERGY & UTILITY AFFORDABILITY COALITION

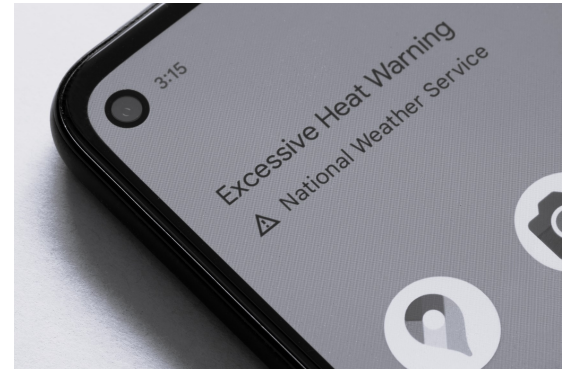
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROTECTS LIVES

Support LIHEAP to ensure ongoing access to energy



The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a critical, life-saving program that serves eligible households in all 50 states plus U.S. territories and tribes; including those persons most susceptible to illness or death resulting from unsafe indoor air temperatures.

The National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC) along with our dedicated partners strongly urge Congress to provide adequate funding for LIHEAP in Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) in order to protect access to energy and fuel for families struggling with kitchen table budgets that are increasingly difficult to balance.



Current events support the need for LIHEAP...

- In FY23, [LIHEAP successfully obligated more than 95%](#) of the \$6.1 billion total LIHEAP funds appropriated by Congress, and served an estimated [7.1 million](#) households,¹ **more than in any other single year since the program's inception in 1981.**
- [Outdoor air quality alerts triggered by wildfires forced people indoors](#) during the summer of 2023, with windows closed during the hottest part of summer. For those suffering from chronic respiratory conditions, this can be an especially dangerous situation. **LIHEAP keeps electricity flowing to respiratory and home health equipment.**
- [Extreme weather events are increasing](#) in both frequency and intensity. **LIHEAP provides life-saving access to utility assistance during both deadly heat domes² and dangerous cold weather.**

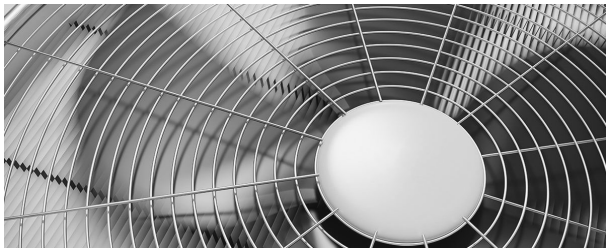
1. Final number of households served may differ based on final reporting by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Estimated figure provided by National Energy Assistance Directors Association
2. More information on the effects of extreme heat can be found at the [Disaster Hub](#), [LIHEAP and Extreme Heat](#) web page and in the updated [Heating Assistance Toolkit](#), hosted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Our request to you...

Please protect seniors, children, those with disabilities and other vulnerable persons by maximizing FY25 LIHEAP appropriations at \$5.1 billion.

LIHEAP provides energy security for millions of households, ensures access to critical home heating and cooling, provides weatherization to improve home energy efficiency, addresses energy crises, and protects families in their own homes.



THE CASE FOR LIHEAP

Protect the vulnerable, address humanitarian needs for energy access

Energy remains unaffordable for many Americans

- The average limited-income household's [energy burden is three times that of other households](#).
- For families with annual incomes of less than \$35,000, [more than half reported they reduced or went without medicine or food at least once in the previous 12 months in order to pay an energy bill](#).
- [LIHEAP restored power or prevented disconnection](#) 3,226,500 times in FY22.

LIHEAP protects those most susceptible to the dangerous effects of extreme heat and cold

- In FY22, [59,180 homes were weatherized](#) with LIHEAP funds, improving the health and safety and affordability for those households.
- Three out of 10 households receiving LIHEAP [used their kitchen stove to heat their home](#) at least once in the year preceding assistance.
LIHEAP helps families avoid dangerous heating practices in the winter.
- One in four households receiving LIHEAP could not afford to address the [non-functioning furnace or cooling system](#) in their homes.
LIHEAP helps repair and replace broken HVAC systems, keeping homes safe and energy efficient.
- [32,000 children were lifted out of poverty](#) because of energy assistance in 2021.
- [41,000 people age 65 or older were lifted out of poverty](#) because of energy assistance in 2021.
- In 2021: Hurricane Ida led to [91 deaths across nine states](#). Winter Storm Uri [killed 259 people and was the costliest U.S. natural disaster on record](#). The Pacific NW experienced the [deadliest heat wave in the region's history](#). **LIHEAP promotes resiliency during weather-related disasters like hurricanes, heat domes, and polar vortexes.** LIHEAP saves lives.

Consistency is key in addressing energy insecurity

- [The rising costs of energy and other resources are having an impact on affordability](#). Ongoing support is necessary to continue to address the serious implications of energy insecurity.
- Year-round programming that includes **both heating and cooling assistance** is becoming increasingly necessary.
- Crisis presents a persistent and insidious state of emergency for LIHEAP families. **Consistent and comprehensive funding** ensures homes are safe and remain connected to utilities during times of extreme heat and cold.

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