

Low-Income Energy Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

1:30 p.m.

Community Renewal Team

Participants: Anne Foley, Pamela Giannini, Tom O'Brien, Laura Gonzalez, Joy Hollister, Joanne Balaschak Shirley Bergert, Deb Polun, Patricia Wrice, Lindsay Parke, James McNally, Edith Karsky, John Dobos, Tanya Barrett, Eddie Swift and Pamela Trotman.

Agenda Item	Action
Welcome	Anne Foley convened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. She reviewed a letter from Secretary Barnes designating her to represent OPM on, and to serve as chair of, the Low-Income Energy Advisory Board. She indicated her intention to contact statutory board members regarding their continued participation. Board members introduced themselves.
Approval of May 2011 Minutes	Deb Polun moved approval of the May 4, 2011 meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by Edith Karsky with one abstention by Anne Foley. The minutes were approved on a voice vote with one addition: "CL&P is working with DSS to develop and implement a more cost effective way to reach customers regarding the winter protection program".
Utility Matching Payment Program Updates	All reports are for June 2011. <u>United Illuminating</u> <u>Matching Payment Program (MPP)</u> 1,918 customers participated in the MPP 1,301 customers successfully completed the MPP 617 customers failed to complete the MPP Successful completion rate of 68%. Total amount matched was \$557,370. <u>Below Budget Worksheets (BBW)</u> 278 customers participated in the BBW 197 customers successfully completed the BBW 81 customers failed to complete the BBW Successful completion rate of 71%. Total

amount matched was \$161,821.

CL&P- Yankee Gas

Matching Payment Program (MPP)

22,00 CL&P and Yankee Gas customers participated in the MPP

6,300 CL&P customers successfully completed the MPP

5,400 Yankee Gas customers successfully completed the MPP

SCG

Matching Payment Program (MPP)

21,970 customers participated in the MPP

8,284 customers successfully completed the MPP

13,686 customers failed to complete the MPP

Successful completion rate of 38%. Total amount matched was \$1,925,730.

Below Budget Worksheets (BBW)

910 customers participated in the BBW

683 customers successfully completed the BBW

227 customers failed to complete the BBW

Successful completion rate of 75%. Total amount matched was \$77,045.

CNG

Matching Payment Program (MPP)

15,148 customers participated in the MPP

7,931 customers successfully completed the MPP

7,217 customers failed to complete the MPP

Successful completion rate of 52%. Total amount matched was \$1,926,412.

Below Budget Worksheets (BBW)

448 customers participated in the BBW

342 customers successfully completed the BBW

106 customers failed to complete the BBW

Successful completion rate of 76%. Total

	amount matched was \$51,461.
Utility Refunds	The utility companies returned a total of \$586,000 in CEAP benefits to DSS for clients who no longer have an account with the companies.
Operation Fuel	In 2010-2011, the fuel banks distributed \$1,740,362 in grants to 5,036 households. In 2011, Utility Voucher Payments totaled \$836,293 for the TANF, Summer, Winter, and Spring programs. The 2011 Energy Grants Budget was \$1,500,000 and the actual amount expended was \$1,740,361.
LIHEAP a) End of Year LIHEAP Report b) Board Recommendations for FFY 2012 CEAP	<p>DSS reported on Application Data for CEAP, SAFA, and CHAP through August 1, 2011:</p> <p>Applications – 134,712 Eligible Applicants – 117,863 Denied Applicants-16,849 Pending Applications -0 Crisis Assistance-38,593 Safety Net -14,893</p> <p>DSS reviewed the Caseload and Eligible Caseload Comparison charts thru August 1, 2011. The caseload comparison chart showed a 2.4% change in the caseload from FFY 2010 to FFY 2011. The Eligible Caseload Comparison chart showed a 3.9% change from FFY 2010 to FFY 2011.</p> <p>DSS expects to expend a total of \$150.7 million by the end of the program year. Approximately \$748,000 remains to pay the utility companies. Figures may change slightly before the end of the program year.</p> <p>The board discussed the CEAP early intake and the availability of administrative funds for the upcoming year. In reference to early intake DSS allocated \$275,000 to the CAAs for the purpose of early intake and has instructed agencies that September 1st will be the official start date.</p> <p>Regarding the availability of administrative</p>

	<p>funds for the upcoming year, Edith Karsky expressed concern that community action agencies are frequently required to obtain lines of credit to cover the administrative costs for implementing programs while waiting for contracts to be executed and payments to be released. This is particularly problematic this year because of the lack of LIHEAP carry-forward funds and tightening of credit. DSS will take this into consideration and attempt to develop and implement strategies to address this issue.</p>
Next Meeting	<p>The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7.</p>