

## **OCC Encourages Participation in Winter Heating Assistance Programs**

As Connecticut finds itself in another winter season, the Office of Consumer Counsel ("OCC") encourages consumers to stay informed of programs available to aid in heating their homes.

There are several services in the state open to homeowners and renters who are eligible. Those customers who are eligible for winter heating assistance may also be able to receive weatherization assistance. The act of weatherizing a home can significantly conserve energy and lower heating bills.

Eligibility requirements include households whose incomes fall at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, households with incomes below 60 percent of the state median income, as well as households with elderly, disabled, and/or children under the age of six with incomes between 150 and 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

Those interested should contact their local Community Action Agency (see below), or call 2-1-1 Infoline or the Department of Social Services ("DSS") Office of Community Services at 1-800-842-1132.

## **Community Action Agencies**

The Community Action Committee of Danbury, Inc. – (203) 748-5422 New Opportunities, Inc. (Waterbury area) – (203)756-8151 Bristol Community Organization, Inc. – (860) 582-7490 Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. – (860) 223-2288 Community Renewal Team, Inc. (Hartford area) – (860) 560-5800 or (Middletown area) – (860) 347-4465 ACCESS, Inc. (Willimantic – Danielson area) – (860) 450-7423 Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (Norwich – New London area) – (860) 425-6681 New Opportunity for Greater Meriden – (203) 235-0278 Community Action Agency of new Haven, Inc. – (203) 387-7700 TEAM, Inc. (Derby – Ansonia – Shelton area) – (203) 736-5420 Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc. – (203) 384-6904 Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now, Inc. – (203) 399-2484