



UESFacts

UESFacts is an update on Philadelphia's energy-poverty situation.

Winter 2006

UESF on the Move!

The Utility Emergency Services Fund has found a new home. On March 1, 2006 UESF will move its operational headquarters to 1617 John F. Kennedy Boulevard at One Penn Center at Suburban Station. This location will provide convenience as UESF becomes more accessible to a major transportation location. This move comes at an advantageous time with office space availability on the rise. While keeping rental costs in line with the current office space, the additional square footage gained will allow all records to be held onsite. Ed Lynch remarked that the new rental offices will make much more efficient use of the square footage.



Toy Van Fundraiser Big Success

As part of a new fundraising campaign, UESF partnered with PGW, the Philadelphia Water Department and PECO to sell toy vans with the logos of the utility companies. This first year event was a huge success with PGW and the Philadelphia Water Department selling close to 200 vans each. The vans (also a bank) were made available in time for the Holidays and were sold for \$30.00. All proceeds raised from the selling of these instant collector's items are being used to assist UESF in its efforts to help more families this year in need of utility assistance. With this success, it is anticipated that next year, a different utility vehicle will be available for sale.

UESF Receives Foundation Support

On January 13, 2006, Edward F. Lynch, Jr., Executive Director, and Brenda Wingfield, Program Director, received a grant for

\$40,000.00 from the Citizens Bank Foundation to provide emergency assistance to low-income Philadelphia households. In July, The Philadelphia Foundation made UESF a grant for \$50,000.00. Additional grants of \$8,000.00 each have been received from the MKM Foundation and the Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial Fund.



Participating in the check presentation are (from left to right): Deborah Khan, Vice President of Community Relations for Citizens Bank; Edward Lynch, Jr. and Brenda Wingfield of UESF. Photo by Christine Jereb

With these foundations making a significant impact in the Philadelphia community, one of our three participating utility companies then matches the foundation support. These grants are leveraged to provide a dollar for dollar utility credit match and are able to double their reach. UESF continues to seek assistance from foundations and corporations like these to provide more support for families that need our help.

UESF appreciates the huge efforts of Kimlar Satterthwaite and Trish Cole with selling the vans inside the utility companies. Some vans can still be ordered by calling 215-829-0545 or logging onto www.uesfacts.org



The vans are custom made with the official logos of PECO, PGW and the Philadelphia Water Department.

We Need Your Help

All donations are matched dollar-for-dollar, and your contribution will directly help a family in need. So please, send your tax-deductible donation today to: UESF, 125 South 9th Street, Suite 501, Philadelphia, PA 19107

\$50 \$25 \$10 Other _____

The official registered and financial information of the Utility Emergency Services Fund may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



Golf Tournament Drives Home Excitement for Adopt A Family Program

The 9th Annual PECO Universal Services Best Ball Golf Tournament provided a great deal of excitement this year in kicking off UESF's Adopt A Family program. In the previous eight years, no one has come close to winning the contest for \$10,000 in Cash. This year, two contestants made the required 10 and 25 foot putts to qualify for their chance at the cash. Unfortunately, neither gentleman was able to sink the "money putt."



The winning team (from left): Howard Enders, John Hill and Lorde Nock

Photo by Edward F. Lynch, Jr.

However, there was much excitement made about the \$19,650 raised to support UESF's Adopt A Family program.

Sixty golfers joined together on Columbus Day to enjoy a wonderful

round of golf, a raffle for many donated prizes and lunch and dinner provided at McCall Golf & Country Club. John Hill, Howard Enders and Lorde Nock took home top team prize while Bill Mitchell (Closest to the Pin), Steve Furtek (Straightest Drive) and Dan Moloney (Longest Drive) shared the individual honors.

UESF always looks to this day as a significant fundraising event for the Adopt A Family program. Plans are already underway for next year's event scheduled for Monday, October 9, 2006.

We wish to thank the following sponsors for their efforts in making this day such a success.

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LIHEAP Update



Edward F. Lynch, Jr.
Executive Director

Before Congress left Washington for its holiday recess, they passed legislation providing \$2.1 billion in funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for FY '06. Despite dramatic

increases in home energy prices, funding for LIHEAP was kept at the same level as provided for FY '05. Several attempts to increase funding for the program by \$2 billion have failed. Senators, Norm Coleman, Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins reported that they reached an agreement with the Senate leadership to have a vote on an emergency supplemental bill to provide an additional \$2 billion to LIHEAP when the Senate returns from its holiday recess. So far, January 25th, no vote has been taken on the supplement.

On January 23, Governor Rendell announced that the LIHEAP eligibility level would be expanded from 135% of poverty to 150%. This means that an additional 67,000 families statewide have the opportunity to apply for help with their heating bills. Governor Rendell said he is able to open the enrollment to 67,000 additional families because of the first time addition of more than \$19 million in state funding that he proposed, and the legislature approved, last fall for LIHEAP as part of the Governor's comprehensive Stay Warm Pennsylvania initiative. Additionally, federal subsidies have been slightly higher than expected. Pennsylvania had \$115 million available last year for LIHEAP grants and more than \$136 million is available now.


Even with the increased funding, LIHEAP will only reach about 25% to 30% of the Pennsylvania families who meet its eligible requirements – higher energy costs and increased poverty rates dictate the need for a \$75 million dollar increase over last year's funding level.

Tidbits

- The Philadelphia Gas Works and the Philadelphia Water Department will be teaming up in March to raise money for UESF's Adopt A Family program. More information will be made available at www.uesfacts.org
- UESF unveiled new banners hanging on streetlights in Center City Philadelphia. The new design by TgfDesign celebrates UESF's Share The Warmth fundraising campaign. The banners can be found on Chestnut and Walnut Streets from 6th Street thru Broad Street.

- Donations to support UESF's program are able to be made via the website at www.uesfacts.org
- UESF's New Address (as of March 1, 2006) will be: 1617 JFK Boulevard, Suite 490, Philadelphia, PA 19103 and the telephone number will remain 215-829-0545.

UESFacts is published by the Utility Emergency Services Fund.
Comments or requests to be added to the mailing list may be sent to:
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