

BERNIE SANDERS

UNITED STATES SENATOR *for* VERMONT



As the weather gets colder and heating costs go up, some Vermonters will have a hard time keeping warm this winter. **If you or someone you know is struggling to pay for heat, help may be available:**

SEASONAL FUEL ASSISTANCE: Helps income-eligible homeowners and renters pay for heat. Funded through the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the average fuel benefit is around \$735 this year. Even if heat is included in your rent, you might qualify *and* it could even increase your monthly 3SquaresVT benefit. If you received fuel assistance last year, you should receive a renewal form in the mail. *You can apply at your local Economic Services Division office, online at <http://dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/fuel-assistance>, or by calling 800-479-6151.*

CRISIS FUEL ASSISTANCE: If you are almost out of fuel and do not have money to buy more, crisis assistance can help. Crisis assistance can also pay to repair or replace your furnace, negotiate a payment plan to avoid electric or gas disconnections. *Apply in person at your local Community Action Program (<http://vermontcap.org>).* Call first to find out what information you need to bring. If you are elderly or disabled, you may be able to apply over the phone.

PROJECT WARMTH: WARMTH helps families pay for fuel and utility bills, and offers counseling. *To apply, contact your local Community Action Program.*

UTILITY ASSISTANCE: Green Mountain Power and Vermont Gas both have programs to help low-income Vermonters heat and light their homes in the winter. *Call 1-800-775-0516 to apply, or visit www.energyhelp.vt.gov.*

EMERGENCY/GENERAL ASSISTANCE: This program may be able to help if you do not have enough money to meet an emergency heating, housing, medical, personal or burial need. *Apply in person at your local district Economic Services Division office.*

If you have questions, please call Senator Bernie Sanders' office at 1-800-339-9834