



CENTRAL AREA MOTIVATION PROGRAM

CENTRAL AREA MOTIVATION PROGRAM KICKS OFF 2011-2012 ENERGY ASSISTANCE SEASON

Seattle, Washington—November 30, 2011—As fall temperatures invade the Pacific Northwest, more Seattle residents face the difficulty of maintaining warm homes.

Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) launched the 2011-2012 Energy Assistance Program last month with the Puget Sound Energy Home Energy Lifeline Program (PSE HELP). The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which is open to Seattle City Light clients and those whose primary heating source is oil, wood, propane and pellets is also now open.

It is an exciting season for CAMP as the energy assistance team updates technology and implements new processes to improve workflow. “We are reformatting our intake process, so we can see a greater number of clients more quickly and efficiently,” said David Gestaut, CAMP’s newly appointed Energy Assistance Program Manager.

These updates could not have come at a better time. CAMP anticipates an influx of clients over the next couple of months as weather forecasts predict below-average temperatures and an increased chance of snow due to expected La Niña weather conditions.

CAMP’s Energy Assistance Program provides financial assistance for Seattle households at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty level. Eligible applicants may receive up to \$1,000 toward their home heating cost, depending on income and household size. For families who have difficulty making ends meet, these grants provide significant assistance.

Despite the common misconception, applicants do not have to receive a disconnection notice or be behind on their bill to qualify for energy assistance. In fact, eligible applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible.

Puget Sound Energy and Seattle City Light customers, as well as those with other heat sources who live within Seattle city limits may call the Energy Assistance appointment line at 800-348-7144 to schedule their appointments. Clients whose heating costs are included in their rent are asked to refrain from applying until March 19, 2012. CAMP’s priority will be to serve clients who are of emergency status and those who could potentially have their services disconnected. This year’s Energy Assistance Program will operate through June 30th or until funds are exhausted.

About Central Area Motivation Program: For more than 45 years, CAMP has provided essential human services to meet the needs of Seattle’s low-income residents. CAMP is one of Washington’s oldest and most respected community organizations, with programs and services helping more than 20,000 people annually through food, housing, and education programs. CAMP’s programs provide immediate financial relief to their clients, with special attention given to emergency situations such as power shutoff and eviction. For more information, visit www.campseattle.org.

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