



Bill Purcell, Mayor

News Release

Metropolitan Action Commission

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For Immediate Release
January 3, 2006

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Metro Action Sees Increase in Customers and Energy Bill Amounts

Nashville—As the city prepares for the cold temperatures and high energy costs, the Metropolitan Action Commission has already seen an increase in the amount of Davidson County residents needing assistance with utility bills.

Metro Action's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) program provides assistance to income eligible Davidson County residents by paying utility bills once per year. Residents may also qualify for assistance under Governor Phil Bredesen's Operation Warm Homes initiative. Under the Warm Homes initiative, Metro Action will receive an additional \$475,100 later this month to assist eligible Davidson County residents with one-time assistance with utility payments.

Both programs assist residents whose monthly income is at or below 125% of poverty. "The Metro Action Commission is excited to be able to provide assistance to income eligible Davidson County residents through these two energy assistance initiatives," said Marvin Cox, Community Programs Director.

After only a few months into the winter season, Metro Action has already served 900 more families this year than the agency served this time last year.

"We have already seen monthly energy bills as high as \$700.00 which can be devastating to a family or a senior citizen with a limited income. It also presents a challenge in providing other needs that are necessary in maintaining their homes. It is certainly a good thing that we have additional funding which should allow us to continue to assist eligible families that come through our doors," said Cox.

Families that want to know if they are eligible to receive assistance with their utility bills are urged to contact the Metropolitan Action Commission at 862-8860 or visit the Metro Action website at www.nashville.gov/mac.

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