



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

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Metro Action prepares for Customers needing Energy Assistance

Agency to add a South Nashville Site to Save Cost of Commuting to Main Site

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – On Tuesday (July 1) the Metropolitan Action Commission will begin assisting low-income families with much needed help with services such as utility payments and rent and mortgage assistance.

“Last year more then 700 customers came to our main site during the first week in July. We are providing multiple options for customers in anticipation of longer wait times. We are asking our customers to be patient as we attempt to provide services to each family,” said Cynthia Croom, Metro Action Executive Director.

In an effort to decrease the wait times at the agency’s main downtown office, the agency will temporarily open an additional site in South Nashville at one of its Head Start location as an Energy Assistance Express Service site for help with electricity or natural gas payments. One of the top-five residents that seek assistance from Metro Action lives in southern Davidson County.

“Because the majority of the customers we see initially are in need of help with their electricity or natural gas payments, we are able to offer an additional site to handle this service temporarily,” said Croom.

The Susan Gray Head Start Center is located at 445 Cotton Lane just off Nolensville Road, between Haywood Lane and Harding Place.

The express site in South Nashville will be open beginning tomorrow from 8am until 12 noon. This site will remain open through July 10.

By January, the agency had completely depleted its energy assistance funds. In April the agency had run out of funding that helped with rent and mortgages. More than 1100 families had to be placed on the waiting list.

“The agency will receive about \$1.8 million to assist families, which is the same amount that we received last year. We know that based upon the increase in families we saw last year and the families that were on the waiting list that will re-apply, it is likely that we will not be able to help all customers that qualify for our program,” said Croom.

The energy assistance application can be assessed using the agency's webpage by visiting www.nashville.gov/mac. Applications are also available at Nashville Electric Service, Metro Social Services, Senior Citizens, Inc, and all libraries. Hadley, Shelby, Cleveland and Coleman Park Community Centers will also have applications available today. All remaining parks will have applications available by Tuesday.

In order for residents to receive help with their energy bill, they will need to bring:

- Most Current energy bill (account must not be disconnected), and;
- Current proof of income or supporting documentation if claiming zero income or if unemployed.

Applications will also be accepted at the main office, located at 1624 5th Avenue, North. The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 8am until 3pm.

Customers needing help with rent, mortgage, property taxes and other household expenses, must come to the main office and be seen by an eligibility counselor. The agency's Summer Cooling Program, which provides free fans and air conditioners for families that are physically or medically disabled, elderly or have young children residing in the home is also only available at the main site.

Only residents of Davidson County that are income eligible are allowed to receive assistance from Metro Action. For more information call 615-862-8860.

Metro Action will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

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