



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Karl F. Dean
Mayor

Cynthia Croom
Executive Director



Metropolitan Action Commission
1624 5th Avenue, North
Nashville, TN 37208

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 17, 2011

Media Contact: Lisa McCrady
(formerly Lisa Gallon)
(615) 862-8860, Ext 144 office
(615) 566-4710 cell
Lisa.mccrady@nashville.gov

July 1 No Longer First Day for Federal Funds for Energy, Rent and Mortgage Assistance

Under the new change some Metro Action customers not eligible until October 1

Nashville, TN----The Metropolitan Action Commission announced today that its funding year will change which will affect the eligibility date for programs supported by the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).

Metro Action will award LIHEAP and CSBG funding based on the federal fiscal year (October 1), instead of the state fiscal year (July 1) based on a new requirement from the Tennessee Department of Human Services (DHS).

Moving the eligibility date from July 1 to October 1 is a major change for Metropolitan Action Commission customers. The beginning of July normally starts the period where long lines of customers come to Metro Action for services. This year individuals who were served between July 1, 2010 and the end of this month will have to wait until October 1.

“It is especially important that we get the word out about the new eligibility dates to the community, especially to our elderly and disabled customers that rely on us for energy assistance annually during the early summer months,” said Cynthia Croom, Executive Director of Metro Action.

Metro Action will continue to serve customers that have not been assisted during the current program year through a three-month contract with DHS beginning July 1. Any customer that has not been helped by the agency since July 1, 2010 would be able to apply for help through September 30.

“The three-month contract will give new customers extra time to apply before the new funding year starts in October,” said Croom.

CSBG covers programs such as the Adult Education/GED Program, Property Tax Assistance for the elderly, Prescriptions and rent or mortgage payments. LIHEAP assists with energy payments such as electricity and natural gas payments.

Metro Action receives funds for Nashville and Davidson County from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through a pass through grant from DHS.

###