

Memo



To: Mayor and Members of the Board of Aldermen

From: Joan Evans

Date: Friday, September 30, 2022

Re: Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Agreement

The Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS) implements energy assistance funding to utility customers during times of hardship through two programs. The Energy Assistance Program (EA) allows a single annual payment for qualified customers. The Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) is designed to help qualified customers in an energy emergency situation.

LIHEAP is funded by a federal grant to the State of Missouri. A customer's eligibility for pledge funds is evaluated by the contracted agency for our region, East Missouri Action Agency (EMAA), or directly by DSS personnel. More information on the program is available at: <https://mydss.mo.gov/utility-assistance/liheap>.

Since federal grant requirements do not allow for direct payment to a qualified applicant, the City needs to enter into an agreement with DSS, so that customers meeting the LIHEAP criteria are able to receive any allocated funds.