



Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency

We help make things happen

1740 Langdon Farm Road

Cincinnati, OH 45237

PRESS RELEASE: July 1, 2010

CONTACT: Mason Gray
Office: 513.569.1854
Cell: 513.884.4841
mgray@cincy-caa.org

Help is available to beat the summer heat

Local nonprofit will again provide utility bill assistance & AC/fans

(Cincinnati, OH) – As summer temperatures continue to climb, the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA) is working to provide relief for the elderly and for those suffering from heat-related health problems. Beginning July 1, families struggling to keep up with their summer energy bills may apply for CAA's Summer Crisis Program (SCP) to receive up to \$175 in financial assistance. A limited number of fans and air conditioners will also be available for eligible families at no cost. Families must supply their own means of transporting a fan or air conditioner.

"With rising utility costs, we anticipate an even greater need for the program this summer. We are here to help those who are most vulnerable to the extreme summer heat," said Gwen L. Robinson, CAA President/CEO.

To be eligible, families must reside in Hamilton County, earn a household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (a family of four earning an income of \$44,100 or less), and must either:

- Have a household member who is sixty years of age or older; or
- Be able to provide documentation of medical necessity from a physician for a household member who is under sixty years of age.

Families who received an air conditioner through the program in 2007, 2008, or 2009 are not eligible to receive another air conditioning unit, but may apply for financial assistance and/or fan. Individuals with non-heating accounts may apply for Summer Crisis program only. Other qualifications apply.

CAA is accepting walk-ins Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m. Appointments are not available. Homebound persons may be eligible for a home visit to receive assistance completing an application. For information available 24 hours a day, the public may call (513) 569-1850 or visit CAA's website at www.cincy-caa.org.

The SCP is a part of CAA's Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), which is federally-funded and administered across the state by the Ohio Department of Development. CAA will distribute \$420,000 in financial assistance and cooling products this summer.

###