



# FACT SHEET

## WHO IS DOLLAR ENERGY FUND?

**For more than 37 years, Dollar Energy Fund has improved the quality of life for households experiencing hardships by providing utility assistance and other services that lead to self-sufficiency.**

Many who receive a grant from the program are experiencing a **temporary financial hardship**, such as a job loss, medical emergency, or other circumstance beyond their control. An assistance grant can help keep them from enduring further financial hardship or having to choose between paying their monthly utility bills and purchasing food, medicine or other necessities. **90% of grant recipients do not need to apply for assistance the following year.**

## NATIONWIDE NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**593,000** limited-income families and individuals have received utility assistance grants since 1983.

**\$165 MILLION** in utility assistance grants have been distributed since 1983.

**14 STATES** are included in Dollar Energy Fund's service territory.

**46 UTILITIES** partner with Dollar Energy Fund to assist their customers in need.

**450 AGENCIES** are available to provide additional assistance to customers such as food, clothing, health services, childcare and more.

## WHAT HAPPENS TO MY DONATION?

To meet the demand for assistance, Dollar Energy Fund relies on the generosity of neighbors helping neighbors.

**\$1 = \$2**

Our utility partners provide a dollar-for-dollar match for every donation.

**100%**

100 percent of all donations are used to provide grants to households, not administrative fees.

**LOCAL**

Your donation will stay within your area to help neighbors in need.

## PENNSYLVANIA HARDSHIP PROGRAM

Dollar Energy Fund's Pennsylvania Hardship Program assists eligible utility customers with their gas, electric and water service by providing a one-time grant that is applied directly to their utility bill. The program is a fund of last resort because it goes above and beyond what is available through federal, state and other programs.

- \$4.6 million was granted to 13,402 families in Pennsylvania during the 2019-2020 program year.
- 1,655 households were without utility service before receiving a grant.
- The average grant amount is \$360.
- More than half of the households supported have children under the age of 18.
- 20% of households that receive a grant have seniors (62 years old or older).
- Over 80% of grant recipients are either currently employed or receiving retirement or disability benefits.
- The average monthly income per household is \$1,612.78.
- 75% of grant recipients have a female head of household.

## GREATER PITTSBURGH REGION

Dollar Energy Fund provided \$3.3 million in utility assistance grants to 8,155 families in the Greater Pittsburgh Region\* during the 2019-2020 program year.

"I never thought I would be in a situation where I could not pay my gas bill, but Dollar Energy Fund was there to help me get through a very difficult time in my life."  
– Mary, PA

"I am deeply touched and thankful for your assistance. Since losing my job nine weeks ago, I have been working hard to find work, interview and support my family. Dollar Energy Fund helped my family! Thanks so much."  
– Don, PA

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
VISIT [WWW.DOLLARENERGY.ORG](http://WWW.DOLLARENERGY.ORG)  
AND FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA.



\*Counties include Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington and Westmoreland.