



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

*Give me a **fish** and I eat for a day. Teach me to **fish** and I eat for a lifetime.*

FUEL FUND OF MARYLAND TO ANNOUNCE EXPANSION OF MISSION

Fuel Fund will demonstrate Watt Watchers Program – educates low income individuals about money management and energy conservation

- WHAT:** The Fuel Fund of Maryland will announce the expansion of its mission to include energy conservation education for those who rely on the nonprofit for assistance to pay their utility bills. For the past two years the Fuel Fund, with funds from the Citi Foundation and Citi, has been piloting its Watt Watchers program to women participating in Caroline Center’s job placement programs. Caroline Center operates an employment and training program for low-income women in Baltimore City. The Fuel Fund has also incorporated components of Citi’s financial education program into Watt Watchers.
- DEMO:** The Fuel Fund will teach Watt Watchers to a Caroline Center class. The lesson includes how to insulate windows and doors, install low-flow water devices, and other energy saving devices. A poster-sized replica of a BGE bill will be used to explain how to analyze utility bills.
- WHEN:** 11 a.m. – noon, Wednesday, July 23, 2008
- WHERE:** Caroline Center, 900 Somerset Street (south from East Eager Street)
- WHO:** Caroline Center class participants, Fuel Fund of Maryland Executive Director, Mary Ellen Vanni, Caroline Center Executive Director Sister Patricia McLaughlin and Terri Hasson, Citi Middle Atlantic Community Relations Regional Director
- WHY:** From July 1, 2007, the Fuel Fund of Maryland has provided more than \$3 million to nearly 20,000 people to help them pay for home energy needs. The goal of Watt Watchers is reduce that number by providing the information people need to take an active role in energy conservation to save money by reducing their utility and other energy-related bills.

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The mission of the **Fuel Fund** is to supplement the resources of those experiencing hardship with their home energy needs.

Caroline Center was founded in 1996 with the mission to assist unemployed and underemployed women to acquire the discipline, knowledge, and skills necessary to find work in a career with potential for growth and advancement, thus creating a future of hope for themselves and their families.

Citi

Citi, the leading global financial services company, has some 200 million customer accounts and does business in more than 100 countries, providing consumers, corporations, governments and institutions with a broad range of financial products and services, including consumer banking and credit, corporate and investment banking, securities brokerage, and wealth management. Citi's major brand names include Citibank, CitiFinancial, Primerica, Smith Barney, Banamex, and Nikko. Additional information may be found at www.citigroup.com or www.citi.com.

Citi Foundation

The Citi Foundation is committed to enhancing economic opportunities for underserved individuals and families in the communities where we work throughout the world. Globally, the Citi Foundation is focusing its giving on Microfinance and Microentrepreneurship, which helps individuals become economically self-sufficient; Small and Growing Businesses, leading to economic expansion and job creation; Education, which prepares young people for personal and professional success; Financial Education, which helps individuals make informed financial decisions; and the Environment with a focus on sustainable enterprises that generate jobs and stimulate economic growth while preserving the environment. Additional information can be found at <http://www.citigroupfoundation.com/>.