



News Release

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Fuel Fund of Maryland Recognizes Volunteer Efforts during National Volunteer Week

Baltimore, Maryland – National Volunteer Week takes place from April 19th-25th. The Fuel Fund of Maryland wishes to honor the commitment of our dedicated volunteers to helping our organization in its mission to assist vulnerable Marylanders with home utility needs.

Over the past year, the Fuel Fund has been lucky to have 20 devoted volunteers, who have contributed over 380 hours of their time. Over 70 community members have expressed interest in volunteering over the past year. Volunteers provide general office and administrative support, serve as board and committee members, and educate the community on energy and financial education through our Watt Watchers of Maryland™ program, sponsored by Citi.

In a recent Watt Watchers of Maryland™ training, attendees reflected on their experiences: Alana Little said “it was a great experience,” while Carl Gonnermann mentioned he “had a blast” and was happy to participate in an experience where he felt he could see tangible results from his efforts.

Executive Director Mary Ellen Vanni says that volunteer contributions allow the Fuel Fund to “benefit from the talents and insights of the community,” and that volunteers are “ambassadors of the Fuel Fund in the community.” Without the assistance of volunteers, the Fuel Fund would be unable to serve as many families in need. In our last fiscal year, we assisted more than 24,000 individuals with utility bills. Over half of those assisted were under the age of 18.

There are many ways to become involved with the Fuel Fund. Help secure major gifts, participating in fundraising events or join committees, become a Watt Watchers of Maryland™ energy conservation educator, or volunteer in one of our offices. All volunteers receive training and support. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, please contact Danielle Phelps, Director of Volunteer Services, at 410-821-3022 x106, or dphelps@fuelfundmaryland.org.

As a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Fuel Fund of Maryland, Inc. provides year-round home energy assistance to families in Central Maryland and has raised more than \$20 million to help nearly 100,000 Maryland families since 1981. The Fuel Fund also garners recognition year after year by receiving the Seal of Excellence from the Maryland Association of Nonprofits, which identifies nonprofit organizations that go above and beyond minimum legal requirements and hold the highest standards of ethics and accountability under the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations’ Standards for Excellence code. A resource in energy conservation education, the Fuel Fund sponsors the Watt Watchers of Maryland™. For more information, visit the Web site at www.fuelfundmaryland.org.

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