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Fuel Fund of Maryland Seeks Volunteers for *Watt Watchers* Initiative

Baltimore, Maryland (January 20, 2009) – The Fuel Fund of Maryland is seeking volunteers to become instructors for its *Watt Watchers* classes, teaching home energy conservation techniques to help those in the community save money on utility bills, help the environment and reduce energy usage. *Watt Watchers* is a five (5) consecutive week commitment, for an average of two (2) hours per week. Classes are taught in coordination with another instructor from the Fuel Fund, and all volunteers will receive training prior to leading classes.

Watt Watchers was started by the Fuel Fund in the beginning of 2008 as the organization expanded its mission to include energy conservation education. Past classes have been held at Caroline Center in Baltimore City, and Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation, as well as Rebuilding Together, have recently become partners in this initiative. Further expansion throughout the metropolitan area is underway. All classes are conducted by dedicated Fuel Fund volunteers.

Past *Watt Watchers* students have realized up to 50% savings on utility bills as a result of applying tips learned in classes. In the first session, students learn how to read, understand, and lower their BGE bills. Additional class topics include financial literacy, tips on involving your whole family in energy savings, and explaining why home location and other circumstances can make a difference in bill amounts. Anyone interested in learning more about this and other volunteer opportunities with the Fuel Fund should contact Danielle Phelps, Volunteer Coordinator, at 410-821-3022 x106, or dphelps@fuelfundmaryland.org.

The Fuel Fund of Maryland, Inc. (www.fuelfundmaryland.org) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit founded in 1981 to assist low-income families in Central Maryland afford home energy costs year-round. For over 25 years, the Fuel Fund has raised more than \$20 million to help nearly 100,000 Maryland families. The Fuel Fund has been awarded the Seal of Excellence from the Maryland Association of Nonprofits since 1999. The award is given to 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.

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