



News Release

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Snow's Coming. Help Local Families Stay Warm.

Expected Snowfall and Frigid Temperatures Drive Up the Need for Donations

Baltimore, MD – With expected snow and the continued frigid weather we've seen this winter, the Fuel Fund of Maryland is ramping up to meet a surge in requests to help keep the heat on.

"Last year, The Fuel Fund helped more than 22,000 individuals stay in warm and well-lit homes. We couldn't have done it without the generosity and compassion of donors throughout Maryland," said Mary Ellen Vanni, Executive Director. "More than half of those served last year were children who needed warm water for bathing, heat to stay warm and safe, and lights under which to study."

BGE has stepped up to the plate to help local families. For the second time this winter, the utility is including donation envelopes in monthly bills. "BGE has demonstrated great leadership on this issue," said Marnell Cooper, Board President for the Fuel Fund. "What an incredible show of community support in caring for their customers."

Each dollar donated generates three dollars to help a Maryland family struggling to meet their basic needs. With the biting cold of winter fully upon us, a few dollars can go a long way to help our neighbors stay warm and safe in their homes.

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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.