

Ways to help

1

Return a gift in the enclosed envelope, or donate online at fuelfundmaryland.org. Recurring donation options are available.

2

Make a donation when you pay your BGE bill online.

3

Designate to the Fuel Fund at work with the following codes:
United Way, CFC: 99844
CBACCC, NCACCC: 99844
CCC: 7695

4

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter, and share with your friends!
[Facebook.com/FuelFundofMaryland](https://www.facebook.com/FuelFundofMaryland)
[Twitter.com/FuelFund](https://twitter.com/FuelFund)

5

Donate your time! Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks. Contact Danielle Phelps at dphelps@fuelfundmaryland.org or 410-844-3835.

Operation HON: Heat On Now

Ice House Event | January 13-15, 2018 | Avenue at White Marsh



Join us from January 13-15, 2018 as we construct a 10'x10' Ice House at The Avenue at White Marsh, located next to their new community ice skating rink.

Friends of the Fuel Fund of Maryland will raise funds while they sit inside the cold ice house until they have met their fundraising goal. Each participant will be assigned a 30-minute timeslot to stay in the house and raise donations. Local politicians, media personalities, and business leaders will be invited to compete by "volunteering" their time to sit in the house while raising funds for the Fuel Fund mission.

Sponsorships are available, as well as volunteer opportunities.

Stay tuned on our website and social media, or contact Debbie Brown at 410-804-2629 or dbrown@fuelfundmaryland.org for more information.

Save a tree!
Help us cut down on costs!
Follow the impact of your gift!

Sign up for eNewsletters
and email updates at

fuelfundmaryland.org

Ave THE AVENUE
AT WHITE MARSH

ICE LAB™

What Powers You?



Jody Costa

As I sit here, writing in my office, the air conditioner is on and I'm quite comfortable on this warm day. For many of us, this **basic necessity of "power"** is relegated to that dusty corner of neglect where basic essentials reside.

For many of us, we don't really notice these basic necessities until there is some kind of **impact point**. This impact point could be a storm or it could be the dismantling of a marriage, a loss of a job, a death in the family or providing care for a sick family member or aging parent. And then, all of the sudden, we realize what we have taken for granted.

As I begin my **new role as Board President**, I asked myself: **what powers me?** It's about stepping up during someone's **impact point** and helping them with a basic need. It's about keeping kids at home to do their school work, making sure a family is eating healthy and warming their home safely and that a senior citizen can age at home with grace and dignity; not making that difficult choice between paying an energy bill or taking medicine.

What else powers me?

- Joining the Fuel Fund of Maryland team and being a part of such a great and talented group;
- The exciting future of the Fuel Fund and our ability to help more households in central Maryland afford their home energy;
- Bringing to bear my own unique experiences and background to help grow the reach of the organization; and
- Being able to have a direct, immediate, and positive impact on 10,000+ households in central Maryland.

I look forward to the challenge ahead and know that our work can only happen with your support. Please find it in your heart this fall to support the Fuel Fund and give families who have reached their impact point a bright, new beginning.

Remember, the Fuel Fund is able to triple the impact of every dollar received through BGE matching credits and clients payments. This means that your \$100 donation is actually able to resolve a \$300 bill. Your dollar will go a long way in creating a brighter community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jody Costa'.

Jody Costa
President, Board of Directors

Story Spotlight: "I learned so much at Watt Watchers!"

Marshall "Bud" Becker, a Baltimore City resident, has had a long career in the entertainment industry as a talent consultant with Hammerjacks as well as voiceovers for 98 Rock. He and his wife, Debbie, are empty nesters and have four grandchildren. In 2014, Debbie suffered a stroke and was in and out of Johns Hopkins Hospital. Bills began to mount and turn off notices were received. With the help of the Fuel Fund and other partnering agencies, their power was restored.

Days later, Bud attended a Watt Watchers workshop, where he learned valuable energy saving tips to use at home. Upon completion of the course, the Becker household switched to budget billing and changed to CFL lightbulbs throughout the house.

"I learned so much at Watt Watchers," said Mr. Becker. "It has taught me and my wife electricity intelligence. We would never have thought that using our dishwasher would be more energy efficient than handwashing," he added. "We are so grateful for everything we learned!"

Ninety cents of every dollar donated goes directly to households like Mr. Becker's. Give the gift of power. Make a donation today!



Bud Becker, Fuel Fund Recipient

Energy Savings for our Clients and Supporters

Fuel Fund Preferred Electricity Rate Program

Would you like to save one month off your home energy bill on an annual basis? Now you can, through the "Fuel Fund Preferred Rate Program" (FFPRP), which ensures that you are getting the cheapest energy supply rate available while helping your Maryland neighbors at the same time!

The Fuel Fund has partnered with PointClickSwitch and MD Energy Advisors to provide significant energy cost savings to those residents who need it most. **The more people that participate in the FFPRP, the higher the savings.** That's why we have decided to open up enrollment to our generous donors in addition to our clients.

Once you are enrolled, MD Energy Advisors will sign you up for the cheapest supplier on the market. At the end of the enrollment period, they will reassess the supplier market to find the new cheapest rate, and enroll you with that supplier.

The FFPRP is free, and promises a minimum of 5% savings. **On average, you will save about \$15 per month.** You will receive an email from MD Energy Advisors once your paperwork has been processed to let you know what your expected savings will be.

MD Energy Advisors always makes sure you are getting the best rate possible. Unlike other similar suppliers that will double or triple your rate after the introductory period, MD Energy Advisors will switch suppliers for you, should the rate increase beyond the 5% savings. **Plus, you'll be supporting Fuel Fund clients at the same time!**

The image shows a portion of a BGE bill. At the top, there is a green header with the BGE logo and contact information. Below this, a circular graphic displays the electric supply rate as \$87.32. A red circle highlights the 'ELECTRIC SUPPLY BGE' section, which includes the Electric Choice ID: 0000012345. To the right, a 'Bill Summary' section lists customer information and a table of charges.

Previous Balance	\$66.99
Payments Received June 2, 2016	-\$66.99
BGE Outstanding Balance	\$0.00
Electric	\$87.32
Gas	\$23.11

Location of the Electric Choice ID number on your BGE bill.

You will need your BGE Electric Choice ID number to enroll, which can be found on your BGE bill.

To learn more about the FFPRP and sign up, visit fuelfundmaryland.org and click the Save Energy link, or contact Kate Suter at ksuter@fuelfundmaryland.org or 410.844.3842.

Fuel Fund Partners with Zerodraft MD

Providing Quick Home Energy Checkups for all Watt Watchers clients

"We, at Zerodraft, are thrilled to partner with the Fuel Fund of Maryland to be able to help our most vulnerable Maryland neighbors control and improve their home energy usage," said Kurt Pfund, Principal, Zerodraft Maryland.

Now included in the Fuel Fund's energy savings "toolbox" is the option to receive a Quick Home Energy Checkup through Zerodraft, a local company that has the trust, expertise, and understanding to help low-income residents reduce their home energy bills.

Very simply, a Quick Home Energy Checkup is a visual assessment of a home's energy systems. During the checkup, a Zerodraft auditor will install LED lightbulbs, efficient flow showerheads, a water heater pipe wrap, smart power strips, and more! Our Watt Watchers clients can realize instant and ongoing savings, for free!

Thank you Zerodraft MD for your commitment to our neighbors in need!



Give the gift of power while shopping online!

We are proud to announce a brand new way to support the Fuel Fund:

amazonsmile

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases you make on their site. Visit:

smile.amazon.com

and enter Fuel Fund of Maryland as your charity of choice.



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Give the gift of power.

Fuel for Thought | Fall 2017 Newsletter

