

# **CAP receives federal boost for energy bill program**

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Lower Columbia Community Action Program (CAP) has received additional federal funds to help low-income households in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties pay heating bills.

Roxana Shelton, CAP's Energy Assistance coordinator, said 1,622 households have received assistance so far this season. The program now can serve an additional 764 households, she estimates.

People must meet low-income requirements to be eligible for assistance. For example, one person cannot earn more than \$1,128 per month, after taxes; for a two-person household, \$1,518; a three-person household, \$1,907.

People do not need to have a shut-off notice to qualify. The program covers all kinds of dwellings and heating sources, including electricity, natural gas, propane, oil and wood.

Once eligibility has been determined and an assessment made, CAP pays the heating source vendor. No money is given directly to households.

Last year, CAP assisted 2,092 households, funneling \$705,000 into the local economy through the program.

For more information, call CAP Energy & Housing at 360-425-3430 or 800-383-2101, extension 219 or 231.