



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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### **Petersburg Office of Social Services Accepting Applications for Fuel Assistance**

**Petersburg, Va:** The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) is currently accepting applications for fuel assistance at all local departments of social services and online through Monday, November 13.

To qualify for fuel assistance, the maximum gross monthly income for a one-person household must not exceed \$1,307. For a household of four, the maximum gross monthly income is \$2,665.

The Energy Assistance Program, funded by the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) federal block grant, provides support to states to assist low-income households in meeting their home energy needs such as electricity, natural and liquid propane gas, oil, kerosene, coal and wood. Assistance may also be available for delivery and installation charges as well as connection or re-connection fees.

“Each year, LIHEAP helps thousands of Virginia households remain safe and warm during the cold, winter months,” said VDSS Commissioner Margaret Ross Schultze. “Through this program, nearly 115,000 households received assistance with their home energy needs last year and were able to focus on other basic necessities. This is critical for elderly and disabled households who are often most vulnerable to extreme temperatures.”

To Apply, families and individuals can visit the Petersburg Department of Social Services at 400 Farmer St, Petersburg, VA 23803. To apply online or to check eligibility for services, visit the CommonHelp website at <https://commonhelp.virginia.gov>.

Applications may also be submitted by telephone by contacting the Enterprise Customer Service Center, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. at (855) 635-4370.

Fuel assistance applications must be submitted or postmarked by Monday, November 13.

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