

## Utility Assistance Funds Available for Central Florida Seniors

From: Peggy Choudhry, Osceola County Commissioner (peggy.choudhry@osceola.org)

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Friday, July 21, 2023 at 02:25 PM EDT



Commissioner Choudhry would like to share the important update from Senior Resource Alliance with all residents. Please read below for more information.

As temperatures rise this summer, seniors in our community are seeing an inevitable increase in their energy bills. To make sure they are well equipped to beat the heat, Senior Resource Alliance (SRA), Central Florida's Area Agency on Aging, is working to connect seniors in need of energy bill assistance with the Emergency Home Energy Assistance for the Elderly Program (EHEAP).

In partnership with the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, SRA is promoting EHEAP applications for qualifying seniors. With the 2023-2024 funds now available, your eligible senior constituents can benefit from up to \$5,000 in energy bill assistance to help with bills.

Senior households located in Orange, Osceola, Seminole or Brevard County with an applicant aged 60 or older and at least one household member who is receiving TANF, SSI and/or SNAP benefits are considered "categorically eligible" for energy bill assistance. Services such as pre-paying energy bills, repairing A/C units, covering deposits to connect or restore energy, and more are covered through the EHEAP program.

As of July 1, qualifying seniors are eligible for up to \$5,000 of assistance across multiple energy bills, while funds are available.

The energy bill does not need to be in the senior's name to qualify, but the senior will need to provide proof of residence. The senior must currently be experiencing a home energy crisis, such as disconnection, delinquency or past due bills, and those households who meet the new eligibility requirements must provide proof of TANF, SSI or SNAP benefits, such as an award letter, in addition to documentation of total household income.

EHEAP applications are being processed directly by three of SRA's partner agencies. Eligible seniors and/or their caregivers in the following counties can call:

- Orange and Osceola County: Osceola Council on Aging at (407) 846-8532
- Seminole County: Meals on Wheels, Etc. at (407) 333-8877
- Brevard County: Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation at (321) 253-4430





# SENIORS:

You may be  
eligible for up to  
**\$5,000**  
in emergency  
energy assistance  
funding.

Senior Resource Alliance  
AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.



**Call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-96-ELDER**





# LATE ON UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS?



Need repairs on  
your cooling units?

Looking for  
assistance with  
disconnect/  
reconnect fees?

Senior Resource Alliance

AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.



**Call the Elder Helpline at 1-800-96-ELDER**



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