



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MILLIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE ‘KEEP THE LIGHTS ON’ UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Shelby County residents do not need a cut-off notice in order to qualify for up to \$650.

Memphis, TN - Through one of the largest LIHEAP grants ever received, Shelby County projects it will be able to assist all those struggling to pay their utility bill who qualify. Those applying for the “Keep the Lights On” program do not need to have a cut off notice to receive funds. Depending on family income and household size, a family can receive up to \$650.

“It is far too easy for a family to fall behind on their utility bill,” says Mayor Lee Harris. “The aim of this program is to alleviate the stress on families of keeping their homes lit and heated before they receive a cut-off notice.”

“It is a misconception that you have to have a cut-off notice to receive some financial aid with your power bill,” says Dorcas Young Griffin, Director of Community Services. “We hope to get the word out that your lights can still be on to apply for the Keep the Lights on Program.”

“It is a challenge for people as they struggle to provide food for their families and pay the bills,” says Commissioner Reginald Milton. “It makes a huge impact for people to receive some assistance to provide for their children and maintain their homes.”

For Shelby County residents to qualify for the program they must complete an application and be living at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level. For example, the income for a family of four would need to be \$38,625 or lower. To schedule an appointment, the hotline is open every Monday beginning at 8am. That number is 901.222.4299.

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