



Dear Friends,

With the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, families need help now more than ever. **The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) has funds available to help vulnerable Michigan residents pay their utility bills.** On behalf of THAW, I am requesting your assistance in sharing this life-saving information about the availability of funds for utility bills.

THAW administers the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP). MEAP provides direct bill payment assistance for heat and electricity for low-income Michigan residents. Families with incomes at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>) are eligible to apply. The family must have current residential service. They must complete a two-step process to qualify for MEAP funds.

1. Residents must first complete a State Emergency Relief (SER) application through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). To apply for State Emergency Relief, go to newmibridges.michigan.gov or visit your local MDHHS office. Once the family or resident receives the SER decision notice, then they complete step 2, the THAW application.
2. Complete the THAW application at thawfund.org/programs or call THAW's Utility Assistance Center at 800-866-8429 to have an application mailed. THAW's Utility Assistance Center specialists are available to support the completion of THAW's assistance application and discuss affordable payment plans with those who qualify.

The application can also be downloaded, printed, and mailed directly to THAW's offices:

The Heat and Warmth Fund
535 Griswold St.
Suite 200
Detroit, MI 48226

The risks of living in a home without utilities are profound. Please help us stabilize and empower Michigan families, keeping them healthy, safe, and warm by sharing this information with your constituency.

A flyer with this information and a graphic to share electronically, if you prefer to email your constituency, is enclosed. Our team is happy to send you additional information or discuss ways to reach your members. For more information, please email customer care@thawfund.org or call 800-866-8429.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Saunteel Jenkins".

Saunteel Jenkins
Chief Executive Officer
The Heat and Warmth Fund



DO YOU NEED HELP PAYING YOUR UTILITY BILLS?

**THAW HAS FUNDS AVAILABLE THROUGH
THE MICHIGAN ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
(MEAP) NOW!**

**CALL 1-800-866-8429
FOR ASSISTANCE TODAY.**

**VISIT THAWFUND.ORG/PROGRAMS
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY.**

