

# ENERGY & UTILITY

## ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



- **Social Services Energy Assistance Programs:**

**Fuel Assistance**-assists with home heating costs and can also help with furnace re-starts, late charges, delivery charges and connection or re-connection fees. Applications are accepted from the second Tuesday in October through the second Friday in November.

**Crisis**-assists with a household's emergency heating need when no other resource is available. Applications are accepted from November 1st through March 15th for one time only heat security deposit and/or heating equipment repair/purchase and is based on available funds. Applications are accepted from the first workday in January through March 15th for assistance with the purchase of home heating fuel and the payment of heat utility bills. Assistance for Crisis is based on the availability of funds.

**Cooling Assistance**-assists with the purchase or repair of cooling equipment and/or payment for electricity to operate cooling equipment. The household must contain at least one vulnerable individual who is age 60 or over, has a disability or a child under age 6. Applications are accepted from June 15th through August 16th.

\* **Apply for Social Services energy assistance programs by phone at 855-635-4370 , online at [www.commonhelp.virginia.gov](http://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov), or by paper**

**at your local department of social services. Eligibility for these programs is income based.**

- **Dominion Energy's™ EnergyShare Program:** EnergyShare is a fuel and cooling assistance program of last resort for anyone who faces financial hardships. It is funded by Dominion Virginia Power & its customers and provides heating assistance in the winter (for any heating source - oil, gas kerosene, wood and electricity) and cooling assistance (electricity) in the summer. Households need to be behind at least one month and assistance is available once per season, except for persons over 60 who can apply twice if the maximum assistance has not been used for that person.
- **Columbia Gas' Dollar Energy:** The Dollar Energy/HeatShare Program is for Columbia Gas customers and is available annually, while funds are available, for services that are terminated or in threat of termination. Exceptions apply for Columbia Gas customers who are Senior Citizens. Applicants must have an outstanding balance of at least \$100. Senior Citizens may have a \$50 balance as long as there is no existing credit on the account. The maximum grant amount an applicant may receive is \$300.



**For more program information, contact Peggy Stallard at 540-372-1032 ext. 256**