



Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency

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1740 Langdon Farm Road, Cincinnati, OH 45237

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Contact: Mason Gray
513.569.1854
cell: 513.884.4841
mgray@cincy-caa.org

Summer Cooling Program Helps At-Risk Beat the Heat

(Cincinnati, OH) – As summer temperatures continue to climb, the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA) is working to provide relief for the elderly and for those suffering from heat-related health problems. Beginning July 1, families struggling to keep up with their summer energy bills may apply for up to \$175 in financial assistance through CAA's Summer Cooling Program (SCP). A limited number of fans and air conditioners will also be available for eligible families at no cost.

"With rising utility costs, we anticipate an even greater need for the program this summer. We are here to help those who are most vulnerable to the extreme summer heat," said Gwen L. Robinson, CAA President/CEO.

To be eligible, families must reside in Hamilton County, earn a household income at or below 175% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines (a family of four earning an income of \$38,588 or less), and must either:

- Have a household member who is sixty years of age or older; or
- Be able to provide documentation of medical necessity from a physician for a household member who is under sixty years of age.

Families who received an air conditioner through the program in 2006, 2007, or 2008 are not eligible to receive another air conditioning unit.

CAA is accepting walk-ins Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m. Appointments are not available. Elderly persons may be eligible for a home visit, either to receive assistance completing an application or to have an AC unit delivered and installed. For information available 24 hours a day, the public may call 569-1850 or visit CAA's website at www.cincy-caa.org.

The SCP is a part of CAA's Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), which is federally-funded and administered across the state by the Ohio Department of Development. CAA will distribute \$330,000 in SCP assistance this summer.

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