



News Release

For Immediate Release

Date: January 31, 2014

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Assistance May Be Available in Propane Emergency

Westby, WI — Couleecap, Inc. who operates the Vernon County Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) is urging residents affected by rising propane costs to contact the Energy Assistance Office in their county to determine eligibility for funding assistance.

The program provides payment assistance to qualifying residents for home heating and electric costs, energy crisis situations, emergency furnace repairs and replacements, payment plans for people behind in heating or electric costs, referrals to home weatherization and other programs.

A propane state of emergency has been declared for households that are 60 percent of the state median income. If you haven't applied for assistance for the 2014 heating season you will need to apply and be income eligible. The 2014 income guidelines and application are available on our website www.couleecap.org. Click on our Programs page and then the Food, Fuel, and Clothing Assistance page to download the application. If you are a new WHEAP applicant please contact your local Energy Assistance Office.

Couleecap, Inc. offers weatherization programs in four counties, including Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe, and Vernon. The program is funded through the State of Wisconsin with funds from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program.

To qualify, residents must have an annual income at or below 60 percent of the state median income guidelines and have applied for WHEAP assistance.

In the event homeowners have to leave their homes because they've run out of propane or are unable to afford to keep it heated, help is also available in how to fortify the residence against the cold, so homeowners don't return to problems like broken or frozen pipes.

For residents of Vernon County contact: Cindy Harter at 608-634-4575, or the Energy Assistance Office in your county.

Couleecap, Inc. is a private non-profit 501c3 charitable organization. Couleecap helps people in need with housing, food, transportation, and more. Created in 1966, we are a community action program that fights poverty and promotes self-sufficiency in Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe, and Vernon counties.

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