

## Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Andy Beshear, Governor

**Eric Friedlander, Secretary** 

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Governor Beshear Announces Funding to Help Kentuckians in Need Pay Household Heating, Cooling Bills

Over \$1.5 million received from federal source

**FRANKFORT**, **KY**. **(Jan. 31, 2022)** – Gov. Andy Beshear today announced federal funding that will help low-income Kentuckians pay their heating and cooling bills. Kentucky will receive \$1,572,878 through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the first installment of a five-year, \$500 million investment in LIHEAP provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

"This assistance is the latest form of support to help our Kentucky families pay for critical bills," said Gov. Beshear. "Eligible households will receive vital support to help them stay safe and healthy, something that becomes even more important during the harshest weather months. No one should have to make the tough choices about which bills to pay, and this program is in place to safely and reliably warm and cool the homes of Kentuckians in greatest need."

Cabinet for Health and Family Services Secretary Eric Friedlander noted that the program provides support beyond heating and cooling, acknowledging that it also provides crisis assistance, weatherization and other vital services.

"Too many Kentuckians continue to fall below the Federal Poverty Level," Secretary Friedlander said. "We believe the most important action we can take to assist vulnerable individuals is to help keep them in their home. That's why we are grateful for this much-needed emergency assistance for help paying for this basic need – assistance with paying for household utilities."

Residents interested in applying for this assistance may contact <u>Kentucky Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program</u>, managed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The phone number is **1-866-674-6327**. Get more information about <u>Kentucky LIHEAP</u>.

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The Cabinet for Health and Family Services is home to most of the state's human services and health care programs, including the Department for Medicaid Services; the Department for Community Based Services; the Department for Public Health; the Department for Aging and Independent Living; and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government, with nearly 8,000 full-and part-time employees located across the Commonwealth focused on improving the lives and health of Kentuckians.