### \$1 Energy Fund, Inc.

Cindy Datig
Executive Director
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# So what is a "hardship fund"?

A hardship fund is a program which raises private and/or corporate dollars to provide residential energy assistance to low-income households.

## \$1 Energy Fund, Inc.

- Created in 1983
- 4<sup>th</sup> largest fuel fund in United States
- Largest fuel fund in Pennsylvania
- Reach over 180,000 consumers annually
- Independent, non-profit organization

### Our Mission

A non-profit organization that provides assistance and tangible aid to families and individuals experiencing difficulty in affording adequate and safe utility supplies in order to maintain basic living standards.

# Why were we created?

- To assist households that have nowhere to turn
- To create a "one stop shop"
- To increase public awareness

## Service Territory

Pennsylvania



New York



New Jersey

### Hardship Program

- Gas
- Light
- Water
- 17 Participating Utility companies
- 130 community based organizations

### Demographics

- Average Grant: \$301
- Family Size: 2.75
- Number of household members under 18: 13, 916
- Number of household members over 62: 2, 611
- Average monthly income: \$1, 177
- Income sources
   Highest-Employment & Social Security

### Funding the Hardship Program

- Contributions from utility customers
- Contributions from utility foundations
- 3. Contributions from utility shareholders
- Individual solicitations
- Special events
- 6. Positive variance from the administrations of low income programs
- Positive variance from workforce development contracts

### Hardship Fund

- Sincere effort of payment
- Gas & Electric bills= \$150
- Water bills=\$100
- Fund of last resort
- Maximum grant is \$400
- Number of applications received-16,000 annually
- Dollars Distributed-\$2.5 million

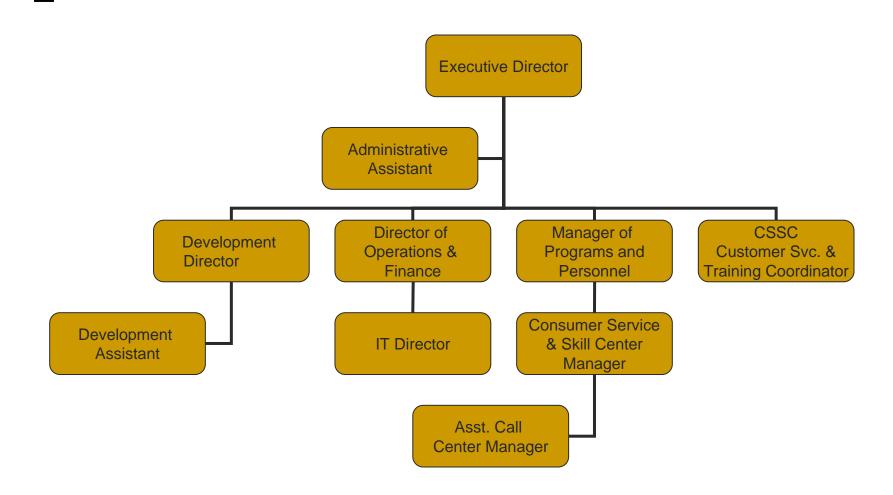
### Other Programs

- Utility Education
- Customer Assistance Program (CAP)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Payment Counseling
- Social Service Information & Referral
- Weatherization
- Outreach

#### **Activities**

- Low-income energy issues
- Advocacy
- Energy conservation
- Assistance with utility bills
- Source of public information and education on low-income energy problems

## Organization Chart



## Development

- Customer Service Supply Chain
  - Free training for low income
  - 32 Corporation Call Centers
  - Funded by the State of Pennsylvania

# Special Events

- Groundhog Day
- Light Up Night
- Fashion Show
- Silent Auction