



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 1, 2005

CONTACT: Marsha Avery Belcher
312/795-1254

**CEDA Low-Income Home Energy Assistance LIHEAP Program
Provides One-Time Energy Assistance Grants to Eligible Families**

CHICAGO, IL – CEDA President and CEO, Robert Wharton announced that effective today CEDA is accepting LIHEAP applications from eligible Cook County residents.

Cook County residents may be eligible to receive assistance under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program if your household's combined income is at or below the qualifying levels.

For instance, a family of four would qualify if it makes less than \$29,000 a year or \$2,420 gross income for 30 days prior to application date. One person living alone may qualify if his/her gross income is less than \$1,196 for the past 30 days prior to application date.

Some residents may also qualify for a one-time reconnection fee and deposit waiver from Illinois' major utility companies.

The first step in the application process is to call 312/456-4100 and ask for the program requirements, types of assistance available, what documents are necessary and the closest intake center location. There are over 150 in-take sites in Cook County.

When applying for assistance, the applicants should bring the following:

- Proof of income for everyone in the household for the previous thirty (30) days to the date of the application. **Note:** If a member of the household receives TANF, you must bring the TANF card with you to apply.
- A copy of your current gas and electric bill.
- Proof of Social Security numbers for everyone in the household. **Social Security Cards or printouts from the Social Security Administration only.**
- If your utilities are included in your rent, bring proof of the contract or lease agreement from the landlord. **No rent receipts. Note:** The landlord's contact information must be on the signed lease agreement.

Interested individuals and families should apply as early as possible.

Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc.
208. S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1900, Chicago, IL 60604
312/795-8844 · Fax 312/795-1034

