

As Worldwide Oil Prices Surge, CT Residents Face Higher Energy Bills

A global price spike for heating oil, natural gas, and other fuels is expected to drastically drive up home heating costs. This, on top of many months of economic fallout from the pandemic, means that many more people will find themselves in financial crisis, unable to afford their utility and energy costs.

“Once folks pay their taxes, once they pay their high rents and transportation costs, there really isn’t much left at the end of the week or the end of the month,” said Brenda Watson, executive director of Operation Fuel. “Our organization actually got its start in the 1970s because of rising energy costs due to an oil embargo, and we stand prepared to once again more than four decades later to fill the gap for those struggling to keep their power running.”

Thanks to support from kind donors and foundations, Operation Fuel is able to help thousands of households throughout Connecticut. One generous supporter, Susan from Naugatuck, was so concerned over the large price increase in heating her home that she sent Operation Fuel a check to help others.

“When I saw my own oil bill, I realized there would be many people who wouldn’t be able to pay theirs,” Susan wrote. “With luck, I’ll be able to donate monthly.”

“I believe we need to make energy affordable for the least of us, and that’s why I believe wholeheartedly in Operation Fuel. We have a great operation here in Waterbury, and it serves many of my constituents.

I will also disclose that when we were very poor, my mother spoke about Ella Grasso; we also benefited from those early days of assistance. So, it goes back quite a few decades for the Reyes family, and the beauty of those programs is that we were able to benefit from as a young kid myself and my siblings are all able to pay it back now and pay it forward.

We do want to make sure that energy efficiency for all is the end goal for the state of Connecticut.”



**CT Representative
Geraldo Reyes Jr.,
speaking at Operation
Fuel’s first-ever Energy
Efficiency Day Summit**

Trust.

Webster's Dictionary defines it as an "assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something."

At Operation Fuel, trust is the foundation of everything we do. And we are grateful to all those who place their trust in us – from Connecticut's most vulnerable residents who turn to us in dark times, to the kind donors who make it possible to power families.

To earn your trust, Operation Fuel has implemented and regularly updates a system of intentional security and privacy controls. This includes role-specific risk management training for our staff, information technology management that voluntarily achieves the highest certification audit, an encrypted donor platform that is also utilized by the FBI, and financial oversight from one of the country's top accounting firms.

Operation Fuel is designated as one of Charity Navigator's "Give With Confidence" nonprofits and has earned the Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar/Candid. As you consider your year-end giving, we would appreciate your support.



Op Fuel by the Numbers

13,480

Number of Connecticut households we help annually with emergency utility and energy grants.

\$3.3M

Financial assistance distributed annually to residents in need.

24/7

Online application portal is available to apply for help anytime at operationfuel.org/gethelp

1977

Operation Fuel founded by leaders in utilities, banking, insurance, religious communities, and CT Gov. Ella T. Grasso in response to global energy costs escalation.

“

When I was growing up in Connecticut, we did not have heat in the upstairs of our house. It was very **difficult to stay warm** at night and I had many sleepless nights **as a young girl.** That feeling has stayed with me my entire life and I do not want others to have to experience the coldest of winter **nights without heat.** I give back so that other children do not have to experience what I did.” - Jann



Power for People, Powered by Friends and Funders: Thank You!

- Hartford Foundation For Public Giving \$100,000
- Community Foundation for Greater New Haven \$25,000
- Community Foundation of Eastern CT - COVID \$15,000
- Ruth L. Woodford \$11,010
- Susan V. Ritter \$10,000
- The Edward & Mary Lord Foundation \$10,000
- Katharine Matthies Foundation \$10,000
- George H.C. Ensworth Memorial Fund Trust \$10,000
- Charles Nelson Robinson Fund \$10,000
- Ensworth Charitable Foundation \$10,000
- Chelsea Groton Foundation \$10,000
- National Philanthropic Trust \$10,000
- Valley Community Foundation \$10,000
- Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation \$8,000
- Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut \$7,500
- Main Street Community Foundation \$6,000
- McPhee Foundation \$5,000
- David N. Lane Trust for Aged & Indigent Women \$5,000
- Linford & Mildred White Foundation \$5,000
- Wethersfield Advisory Committee \$5,000
- Webster Bank \$5,000
- Farmington Bank Community Foundation \$5,000
- Travelers Championship \$4,782
- Barbara V. Gorman \$4,500
- People's United Community Foundation \$4,500
- New Alliance Foundation \$3,500
- Suffield Advisory Committee \$3,000
- Mr. and Mrs. James C. Hamilton \$3,000
- George & Grace Long Foundation \$3,000
- Alexander Wood and Elizabeth Rohr Wood \$2,500
- Gary L. Carter and Elizabeth York \$2,500
- Small Bank of Manchester Charitable Foundation \$2,500
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whalen \$2,350
- Mr. and Mrs. Neale Hauss \$2,000
- Mr. and Mrs. William Foulds Family Foundation \$2,000
- St. John's Episcopal Church \$2,000
- J. Christopher Bernhard \$2,000
- Phyllis R. Pierson \$2,000
- The Hartford \$1,500
- Jonathan Bernon and Amy Feldman Bernon \$1,500
- Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Joffray \$1,500
- Mr. and Mrs. Jeffry K. Larson \$1,500
- Mr. and Mrs. Reed Tapper \$1,500
- Berkshire Bank \$1,500
- Lee DesRoches \$1,200
- Siamak Vahidi \$1,050
- Susan Jefferson \$1,000
- Thomas Daniels \$1,000
- Florence Grieb \$1,000
- Mr. and Mrs. James H. Ditkoff \$1,000
- Eastern Savings Bank Foundation \$1,000
- First Congregational Church of Washington \$1,000
- Barbara L. Garside \$1,000
- Raymond James Global Account \$1,000
- William Wynne \$1,000
- Beverly A. Harris \$1,000



“I give back because I believe in the good of people and I hope that if I ever needed help, someone would come to my aid as well.” - Alan

 **power for good** —  **OPERATIONFUEL.org/give**



CHECK OR CASH:

Mail to Operation Fuel,
75 Charter Oak Avenue,
Suite 2-240, Hartford,
CT 06106.



TEXT:

Text
OPFUEL
to **44321**



ONLINE at
operationfuel.org/give

ADD-A-DOLLAR to your monthly utility bill:

100% goes to Operation Fuel. Learn
more at **operationfuel.org/addadollar**



Email **info@operationfuel.org** to learn more about:

- Matching gifts through your employer.
- Stock transfer gifts.
- Gifts in your will that leave a lasting legacy.

Year-Round Energy & Utility Assistance for CT Neighbors in Need

Light. Warmth. Water to drink.
A refrigerator to store baby bottles
or insulin at safe temperatures.
A shower to keep children clean.
A stove to make meals for the family.



**ELECTRICITY
& WATER**



**FUEL OIL &
NATURAL GAS**



**ADVOCACY &
EDUCATION**



**HOMELESSNESS
PREVENTION**

operationfuel.org/gethelp

**“ I could barely keep my head
above water, but thanks to your
assistance with my energy bill,
I feel like I can see the light at the
end of the tunnel.” - Shequette**

