



SUPPORTS TO ENCOURAGE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2019

SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM TO START JULY 1
Now Taking Appointments for Utility Assistance Program

Supports to Encourage Low-income Families (SELF) is now taking appointments for its Summer Crisis Cooling Program, which runs July 1 through August 31, 2019. The Summer Crisis Cooling program is part of Ohio's Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), which is a federally funded program that helps eligible Ohioans who are at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines meet the high costs of home heating in the winter and cooling in the summer.

The Summer Crisis Program helps households with senior citizens over the age of 60 and/or those living with a documented medical condition that requires air conditioning (such as asthma or COPD) stay cool during the hottest summer months with utility bill assistance, fans and air conditioners. Eligible customers must apply in person at SELF and appointments are strongly encouraged. SELF does have a limited number of walk-in appointments available each Wednesday.

Please bring the following documents to your appointment:

- Picture ID
- A list of all household members and proof of income for the last 30 days or 12 months for each member
- Most recent utility bills (gas and/or electric, fuel oil), regardless of account status
- Proof of Citizenship
- Proof of Disability, if applicable
- Birth dates and Social Security Numbers for all household members
- Documentation of medical condition, if under 60 years of age. Medical notes may be issued no more than one year prior to the date of the SCP assistance application. The form should state, "Due to an illness, this client would benefit from continued electric services."

Ohioans enrolled in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus Program (PIPP Plus) are not eligible for bill payment assistance through the program but may be eligible for an air conditioning unit.

Appointments for HEAP can be scheduled at SELF's Hamilton office located at 1790 S. Erie Highway in the Hamilton Crossings shopping center, or at its Middletown location at 930 9th Avenue. To make an appointment, call SELF's Hamilton office at 513-868-9300 and select Option 1. For more information, go to www.selfhelps.org. You can also keep up with SELF on Facebook and Instagram under @SELFhelps.

###