



Office of Mayor Thomas McNamara

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## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Jennifer Jaeger  
City of Rockford Human Services Dept.  
*A Community Action Agency*  
844-710-6919 jennifer.jaeger@rockfordil.gov

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### **LIHEAP HELP WITH ENERGY COSTS**

**Rockford** – The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for eligible residents in Winnebago and Boone Counties continues to be open through June 30, 2020. LIHEAP pays a benefit directly to utilities or energy vendors on behalf of eligible households or directly to eligible renters if all energy costs are included in their rent.

A single-person household can qualify with a monthly income for up to \$1,561, a two-person household up to \$2,114, a three-person household up to \$2,666, and a family of four up to \$3,219.

Any household that has not applied for assistance yet could apply as soon as possible. Applicants who already applied for LIHEAP since October 1, 2019 and now have high utility bills that they are unable to pay, may Reconnect Assistance from the program if they re-apply before June 30, 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, application appointments are currently made by phone only. Residents can call the Community Action Agency Office at 844-710-6919 to secure a phone appointment for making an application. Documentation follow-up will be required and will be discussed at the phone interview. All benefits are based upon household income from all members in the household.

LIHEAP is administered by the IL Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Energy Assistance funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and administered locally by the City of Rockford Human Services Department, *A Community Action Agency*.

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