



For immediate release

Summer Crisis Program available to assist eligible households

July 1, 2021-Akron, OH- Community Action Akron Summit will assist income-eligible Summit County residents maintain their utility service through the Home Energy Assistance Summer Crisis Program. The program helps eligible residents pay an electric bill, purchase an air conditioning unit or fan (up to 2 fans). This year, the program will run from July 1 until September 30, 2021 and has expanded eligibility requirements so more residents can be helped during the Coronavirus health crisis.

Eligible households can receive up to \$500 if they are a customer of a regulated utility, or \$800 if they are a customer of unregulated utilities such as electric cooperatives and municipal utilities. The assistance is applied to their utility bill, or to purchase an air conditioning unit or fan (up to 2 fans). Residents must have a gross income at or below 175% of the federal poverty guidelines to qualify for assistance. For a family of four the annual income must be at or below \$46,375.00

Summit County residents that are enrolled in the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus Program (PIPP) who meet the above criteria **may** be eligible for assistance towards their default PIPP payment, first PIPP payment, or may receive an air conditioning unit and/or fan.

Due to the Coronavirus health crisis, Community Action Akron Summit will complete scheduled appointments over the phone (no face-to face interviews) for the Summer Crisis Program (SCP). Customers can call the HEAP line at 330-436-0261 or go to <https://capappointments.com> to schedule an appointment. Customers that have a scheduled appointment must be available to complete the application process over the phone during their scheduled appointment time.

Community Action Akron Summit will also continue to process applications online and receive paper applications. The required documentation needed for HEAP can be dropped off at Akron-670 W. Exchange Street or Springfield-1367 Doty Drive, or Barberton-105 5th Street Documentation can also be faxed to 330-313-3884 or uploaded if applying on-line at www.energyhelp.ohio.gov

Community Action Akron Summit is a private non-profit corporation operating various programs that assist low-income Summit County residents to become self-sufficient. These programs include, Head Start, Early Head Start, Foster Grandparent Program, Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Pathways HUB Community Action, and the Akron Summit Earned Income Tax Credit Program.

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