

Low-Income Bill Assistance Info and Strategy Template

1. Utility Name _____ Electric Gas Both
2. Total # of Customers _____ # of Residential Customers _____
3. Low-Income Demographics:
 - A. # < 125% FPL _____
of HH w/Children < 5, Seniors, and /or disabled _____
 - B. # < 60% of area median income (\$_____/yr) _____
of HH w/Children < 5, Seniors, and /or disabled _____
4. Rates & Bills - What is:
 - A. the per kWh (or per therm) charge? _____
 - B. the fixed or base charge? _____
 - C. the average annual bill for a low-income HH _____
5. Existing rate discounts/bill assistance programs:
Seniors # in territory _____ # receiving assistance _____
Disabled # in territory _____ # receiving assistance _____
6. Utility investment - What is the amount of money the utility spends each year on:
 - A. Weatherization \$_____ # HH served since 1985 _____
Shareholder % _____ Ratepayer % _____
 - B. Energy Assistance \$_____ # HH served/year _____
Shareholder % _____ Ratepayer % _____
7. Is there a voluntary rate payer contribution (Fuel Fund)?
\$ collected/year _____ # HH served/year _____
8. How much is spent by the utility as write-offs for bad debt? \$_____ % L-I _____
9. How much is spent on collection cost for bad debt? \$_____ % L-I _____
10. How many low-income HH are in arrears? _____
What is the estimated cost? \$_____
11. What is the number of shutoffs/year? _____ % L-I _____
Cost to the utility/year \$_____
12. How much LIHEAP assistance \$ is spent/year in the utility service territory? \$_____

TO CALCULATE FUNDS NEEDED TO COVER THE ENERGY BURDEN-BASED BILL ASSISTANCE:

1. Take the # of L-I HH in the service territory. _____
 2. Find their average income per annum. \$_____
 3. Multiply #2 by 5% (or whatever % of income you choose). \$_____
 4. Determine the average utility cost/year for #1. \$_____
 5. Subtract #3 from #4. \$_____
 6. Multiply #5 by the number of eligible households (#1). \$_____
 7. Multiply #6 by the desired penetration rate (e.g., 25%, 50%, etc.) \$_____
- Number 7 is the amount of funds needed to fund the program for direct assistance
8. Now, calculate the amount of money needed to cover your administrative, program support (including eligibility determination and outreach) to serve this number of households \$_____
 9. Add numbers 7 and 8 together to get the utility cost (not including administration) for the program.

REACH is the Residential Energy Assistance Challenge, a federal initiative of the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Community Services administered in Washington State by the Department of Community Trade and Economic Development in partnership with A World Institute for a Sustainable Humanity (A W.I.S.H.).