



Utility Bill Assistance

City Commission Conference Agenda

August 8, 2022

HELP OFFERED

- **ALPI Energy & Water Fair (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program-LIHEAP) & Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)**

- Approximately 500 people applied for assistance.
- Was the first time water bills were included.
- Applications are under review and could take 4 to 8 weeks for determination
- Applicants must have a total household gross income of no more than 150% of the Federal Poverty guidelines and provide additional requested information
- First-come, first-serve basis



- Suspended all service disconnections for non-payment, effective August 1st
- Waived any late fees assessed after August 1st, 2022
- Offered budget billing and special payment arrangements
- **Project CARE partnership with Mustard Seed (\$50,000)**
 - Financial assistance up to \$150.00 to qualified applicants must pay part of the bill
 - Customers must meet an income threshold of 200% or below the poverty level to qualify and provide additional requested information
 - By appointment only
 - Does not assist the same household more than once in any 12-month period



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Mustard Seed - Various	772-465-6021	www.mustardseedslc.org
ALPI – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	863-956-3491	www.alpi.org/liheap
The Salvation Army	772-464-4846 ext. 104	www.salvationarmyflorida.org/martincounty/
In the Image of Christ – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	772-461-7788	www.intheimageofchrist.org/programs
Treasure Coast Council Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	772-465-4551	www.treasurecoastcouncil.com/getting-help
St. Lucie County Human Services		www.stlucieco.gov

Opportunities for Assistance

Payment Assistance

- Partnership with St. Lucie County
- Administer crisis home energy assistance based on the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) guidelines.



Guidelines

- Allocate \$100,000 of ARPA funds
- Limited to once during the cooling season through September 30, 2022
- An applicant must have a final notice or shut-off
- Max. assistance is \$5,000, based on what is needed to resolve the crisis
- City Resident



Community Investment

- Provide weatherization rehabilitation improvements to up to 30 owner-occupied homes belonging to our extremely low-income citizens.
- The CDBG FY 23 Annual Action Plan includes \$20,000 allocation.
- Supplement funding with ARPA funds

