



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

Gerri D. Huser, Chair
Richard W. Lozier, Jr., Board Member
Joshua J. Byrnes, Board Member

January 11, 2021

The Honorable Tim Kraayenbrink, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Gary Mohr, Chair, House Appropriations Committee

Re: FY 2020 Utility Customer Contribution Fund Annual Report

Dear Senate and House Appropriation Committee Members:

Iowa Code § 476.66(6) requires the Iowa Utilities Board (Board) to submit an annual report to the Appropriations Committees regarding the status of utility customer contribution funds. These funds were created to accept voluntary contributions from utility customers to supplement the federal weatherization program and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to households.

Legislation requiring all natural gas and electric utilities to establish customer contribution funds was adopted in 1988 and implemented in 1989. Utilities file with the Board annual reports that summarize each fund's activities for the prior state fiscal year. The attached report summarizes those submissions for FY 2020.

If we can provide any further information, please contact Maison Bleam, our legislative liaison, at 515-725-7345.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis Vander Streek".

Louis Vander Streek
Chief Operating Officer

Attachment: Customer Contribution Fund Annual Report

Customer Contribution Fund Annual Statewide Report Iowa Utilities Board

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Iowa Code § 476.66 requires all electric and natural gas utilities to establish a fund that supplements the low-income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) and to assist with weatherization. Customers and other entities may contribute to the fund. Each utility must establish a board or committee to determine the appropriate distribution of the funds. The funds are distributed directly by the utility or through the local community action agency.

Each utility must file with the Utilities Board (Board) an annual report of their fund's activity. The Board must compile the utility reports into the Annual Statewide Report (below) for submission to the General Assembly.

CONTRIBUTIONS	
Number of Customers Contributing	10,184
Undistributed Fund from Previous Year	\$223,305
Customer Contributions Collected	\$532,494
Matching and Other Contributions	\$1,093,586
Total Contributions	\$1,849,385
Reimbursed Expenses	\$846
NET CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,848,539

FUND DISTRIBUTIONS	
Weatherization Program	\$6,072
Heating Assistance Payments	\$1,197,802
Other Programs	\$47,183
TOTAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTED	\$1,251,057
Estimated Number of Households Assisted	4690
AVERAGE ASSISTANCE PER HOUSEHOLD	\$267

UTILITY EXPENSES	
Advertising	\$10,578
Admin. & General Salaries	\$17,387
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$5,515
Supervision – Labor & Expenses	\$789
Mailing	\$441
Printing	\$5,918
Publication	\$8,688
Total Expenses	\$49,316
Reimbursed Expenses	\$434
UNREIMBURSED UTILITY EXPENSES	\$48,882

Notes: The Annual Statewide Report represents the total values reported by 203 utilities that provide electric and/or natural gas service. This includes five investor-owned utilities, 156 municipal utilities, and 42 cooperative utilities.

The Board compiles the annual report of fund results as submitted by the utilities, but does not verify the accuracy of information provided by the utilities.

Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar. Funds not distributed during a fiscal year are carried forward to the next fiscal year. Each utility is allowed to keep 5 percent of annual contributions to defray program expense.