



January 13, 2025

The Honorable Tim Kraayenbrink, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Gary Mohr, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Via email: tim.kraayenbrink@legis.iowa.gov and gary.mohr@legis.iowa.gov

Dear Senator Breitbach and Representative Grassley:

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

Legislation requiring all-natural gas and electric utilities to establish customer contribution funds was adopted in 1988 and implemented in 1989. Utilities file annual reports with the Commission that summarize each fund's activities for the prior state fiscal year. The attached report summarizes those submissions for FY 2024.

If we can provide any further information, please contact Stephanie Weisenbach, our legislative liaison, at 515-725-7385.

Sincerely,

Erik Helland
Chair

Attachment: Customer Contribution Fund Annual Report

**Customer Contribution Fund Annual
Statewide Report
Iowa Utilities Commission**

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

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 Iowa Utilities Commission (Commission) an annual report of its fund's activity. The Commission must compile the utility reports into the Annual Statewide Report (below) for submission to the General Assembly.

CONTRIBUTIONS	
Number of Customers Contributing	10,174
Undistributed Fund from Previous Year	\$433,725
Customer Contributions Collected	\$605,504
Matching and Other Contributions	\$2,070,035
Total Contributions	\$3,109,264
Reimbursed Expenses	\$913
NET CONTRIBUTIONS	\$3,108,351
FUND DISTRIBUTIONS	
Weatherization Program	\$6,016
Heating Assistance Payments	\$3,279,180
Other Programs	\$50,626
TOTAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTED	\$3,335,823
Estimated Number of Households Assisted	9,026
AVERAGE ASSISTANCE PER HOUSEHOLD	\$370
UTILITY EXPENSES	
Advertising	\$10,879

Admin. & General Salaries	\$22,264
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$5,117
Supervision – Labor & Expenses	\$1,197
Mailing	\$1,407
Printing	\$2,854
Publication	\$5,741
Total Expenses	\$49,460
Reimbursed Expenses	\$913
UNREIMBURSED UTILITY EXPENSES	\$48,547

Notes: The Annual Statewide Report represents the total values reported by 228 utilities that provide electric and/or natural gas service. This includes six investor-owned utilities, 180 municipal utilities, and 42 cooperative utilities.

The Commission 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.