



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

Geri D. Huser, Chair
Elizabeth S. Jacobs, Board Member
Nick Wagner, Board Member

January 8, 2018

The Honorable Charles Schneider, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Pat Grassley, Chair, House Appropriations Committee

Dear Senator Schneider and Representative Grassley:

Iowa Code § 476.66(6) requires the Iowa Utilities 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 federal weatherization and energy assistance to low-income households.

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 Board that summarize each fund's activities for the prior State Fiscal Year. The attached report summarizes those submissions for FY 2017.

If we can provide any further information, please contact Louis Vander Streek at 515-725-7314.

Sincerely,

/s/ Geri D. Huser

Geri Huser
Chair

Attachment: Customer Contribution Fund Annual Report

cc: W. Charles Smithson, Secretary of the Senate
Carmine Boal, Chief Clerk of the House
Senate Appropriations Committee Members
House Appropriations Committee Members

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

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

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 fund 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	11,585
Customer Contributions Collected	\$527,449
Matching Contributions	\$1,094,498
Total Contributions	\$1,621,947
Reimbursed Expenses	\$94
NET CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,621,853

FUND DISTRIBUTIONS	
Weatherization Program	\$35,395
Heating Assistance Payments	\$1,704,349
Other Programs	\$49,922
TOTAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTED	\$1,789,666
Estimated Number of Families Assisted	6,940
AVERAGE ASSISTANCE PER FAMILY	\$258

UTILITY EXPENSES	
Advertising	\$16,100
Admin. & General Salaries	\$47,140
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$4,340
Supervision – Labor & Expenses	\$3,592
Mailing	\$2,111
Printing	\$5,224
Publication	\$5,858
Total Expenses	\$84,365
Reimbursed Expenses	\$94
UNREIMBURSED UTILITY EXPENSES	\$84,270

Notes: The Annual Statewide Report represents the total values reported by 202 utilities that provide electric and/or natural gas service. The following utility did not respond to the requirement to file a report with the Board:

Westfield, City of

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 expenses.