



COOL DOWN

for
WARMTH



**2023 VIRTUAL GIVEBUTTER
FUNDRAISING**

JANUARY 26, 2023

BROADCASTING ON KDKA-TV



COOL DOWN FOR WARMTH is an annual fundraiser to benefit Dollar Energy Fund and local families in need. On **Thursday, January 26, 2023**, KDKA-TV will host a televised Cool Down for Warmth. The goal of the campaign remains the same – to build awareness of the many families who will go without heat during the harsh winter months, while attempting to raise money for utility assistance grants.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE DONATIONS?

\$1 = \$2

Our generous utility partners provide a **dollar-for-dollar** match for every donation Dollar Energy Fund receives.

100%

of all donations are used to provide utility assistance grants to limited-income households, not to cover administrative fees.

LOCAL

Donations will **stay within the area** they are received, to help your friend, family or neighbor restore or maintain safe utility service.

ABOUT DOLLAR ENERGY FUND

For nearly 40 years, Dollar Energy Fund has improved the quality of life for households experiencing hardships by providing utility assistance and other services that lead to self-sufficiency. Many who receive a grant from the program are experiencing a temporary financial hardship, such as a job loss, medical emergency, or other circumstance beyond their control. An assistance grant can help keep them from enduring further financial hardship or having to choose between paying their monthly utility bills and purchasing food, medicine or other necessities.

NATIONWIDE NUMBERS:

794,000 limited-income households have received utility assistance since 1983.

\$240 Million in utility assistance grants have been distributed since 1983.

14 States are included in Dollar Energy Fund's service territory.

PENNSYLVANIA IMPACT:

Pittsburgh is in the top 10 of U.S. Cities with the highest average monthly utility bills. Pennsylvania's Hardship Program assists eligible utility customers with their gas, electric and water service by providing a one-time grant that is applied directly to their utility bill.

Last year, Dollar Energy Fund granted over **\$5.4 Million** in utility assistance to more than **15,000** families in Pennsylvania.

The average household will pay about **17% more** this winter to heat their property.



Winter might feel far off right now, but for some of our struggling Pittsburgh neighbors, it's all they can think about. Imagine the stress of approaching the cold months with an apprehension that goes beyond snowy roads and is instead derived from the question no family should have to ask: will I make it through the winter? Limited-income families in our city will try to keep their houses warm so their children can sleep well at night. They will struggle to keep their pipes from freezing so they can shower for work. They will stretch their thin incomes and still not come up with the necessary funds to stay warm.

You can help by participating in our 9th Annual COOL DOWN FOR WARMTH

By partnering with Dollar Energy Fund for a fundraising opportunity on **January 26**, you can raise funds that will go directly toward assisting these families in need.

In the dead of winter, KDKA-TV will host a virtual Cool Down for Warmth. The goal of the program remains the same - to build awareness of the many families who will go without heat during the harsh winter months, while attempting to raise money for utility assistance grants.

Community members, leaders, and willing participants will work toward their minimum fundraising goal of \$1,000 (or \$2,500 for a team). All donations collected will receive a dollar-for-dollar match from our partnering utility companies. All donations and matching funds will be used to help approximately six families per individual fundraising participant, or 16 families per team.

As a participant, this packet will provide you with all the necessary tools you'll need to reach out to your family, friends and co-workers and obtain donations, including social media messaging and access to a personal web-based donation portal. We want you to succeed for the sake of our clients, so we'll do anything we can to help make your campaign a success!

Visit our fundraising website at www.givebutter.com/cooldownforwarmth2023 to get started today! If you have any questions regarding the Cool Down for Warmth event, we encourage you to contact us at events@dollarenergy.org.

Sincerely,



Chad Quinn
CEO



PARTICIPANT FAQs

As part of Dollar Energy Fund's goal to help local families maintain or restore their utilities during this challenging time, we will host the 9th Annual Cool Down for Warmth virtually on KDKA-TV. All donations will receive a dollar-for-dollar match from our partnering utility companies and 100 percent of the donations and matching funds will be used to provide utility assistance grants to local families in need through Dollar Energy Fund's Hardship Program.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

Sign up on Givebutter to participate in the Cool Down for Warmth event and work toward raising a minimum of \$2,500 (team) or \$1,000 (individual) for Dollar Energy Fund.

DO I HAVE TO SIT IN AN ICE HOUSE?

This year's event will not feature a public ice house. Our 2023 Cool Down for Warmth is completely virtual, so you can raise funds and spread awareness from the safety and warmth of your own home!

HOW WILL DONATIONS BE COLLECTED?

Donors can contribute anytime **before or during the event** through your personal fundraising website on: www.givebutter.com/CoolDownforWarmth2023.

We encourage participants to recruit as many donations in advance as possible.

All donations will receive a dollar-for-dollar match and 100% of all funds will go directly to provide utility assistance grants to local families in need.

WHAT IF I DON'T MEET MY GOAL?

Any amount of money raised will make an impact on our neighbors in need. This packet will provide you with all the tools you'll need to reach out to your family, friends and coworkers before the event. We'll do anything we can to help make your campaign a success!



SIGN UP TO FUNDRAISE ON GIVEBUTTER!

Thank you for committing to taking the Cool Down for Warmth challenge to help local families maintain or restore their utilities. This event will not only raise funds, but awareness for our cause and our sponsors.

1. SIGN UP ON GIVEBUTTER

Sign up on Givebutter by visiting www.givebutter.com/CoolDownForWarmth2023. To assist, we have created [this step-by-step video](#) that will guide you through setting up your personal fundraising page.



2. SPREAD THE WORD

Your Givebutter dashboard has tools to help you get the word out and view donations. Your personal fundraising link can be copied in your Givebutter dashboard. Email is one of the most effective methods to fundraise. Use the sample solicitation email in this packet to reach out to people in your network. Share your fundraiser on all social networks. Don't be afraid to ask early and often.

3. COLLECT DONATIONS

To keep things in order, we would prefer that you **conduct and collect most of your personal fundraising through your Givebutter page prior to the virtual event on January 26**. That's the easiest and best place for donors to make secure credit card donations. By checking your personal fundraising page, you and your donors will be able to see the amount of money you have raised during any part of the campaign.

Offline donations may also be collected, such as cash or check. While not preferred, your donors can send checks to Dollar Energy Fund, P.O. Box 42329, Pittsburgh PA, 15203, during the fundraising period. If you personally collect an offline donation, such as cash or check, please notify events@dollarenergy.org. We would be happy to credit the offline donation to your fundraising page. Mail offline donations to Dollar Energy Fund, P.O. Box 42329, Pittsburgh PA, 15203.

Avoid missing important email updates from Givebutter! Whitelisting an email involves telling your email provider that you want emails from that sender to be allowed into your inbox. Add "Givebutter.com" to the Safe Senders or Approved Senders list. This feature can be found in your email settings.



SPREAD THE WORD

SAMPLE EMAIL SOLICITATION

Dear **XXXXX**,

Did you know many of our own neighbors are struggling to provide the very basics of livelihood, including safe utility service for their families. Many families in our city will try to keep their homes warm so their children can sleep well at night. They will stretch their thin incomes and still not produce the necessary funds to stay safe. In an effort to help, I am participating in a virtual fundraising event for Dollar Energy Fund called Cool Down for Warmth.

Last year, Dollar Energy Fund helped over 15,000 Pennsylvania families maintain or restore their utility service. I will be raising funds and awareness for the many families who may go without heat during the harsh winter months. I'm asking you to help me meet my fundraising goal of **\$XXXX** by making a simple donation on my personal web site - www.givebutter.com/_____.

All donations collected will receive a dollar-for-dollar match from local utility companies and 100% of the donations and matching funds will be used to help local families receive utility assistance grants.

I hope you can help me with this worthy cause. Please know that any amount you decide to give will go a long way to help our neighbors in need stay safe and warm this winter.

Tune in to the virtual Cool Down for Warmth event on January 26 on KDKA-TV to support Dollar Energy Fund and their mission. I wish you and your family the best for the upcoming holiday season.

Regards,

SAMPLE EMAIL SIGNATURES



Help spread the warmth! Donate to Dollar Energy Fund during the Cool Down for Warmth event on KDKA – TV • January 26 • www.givebutter.com/_____.

Join me in supporting Dollar Energy Fund as we spread the warmth to our neighbors in need! Click [here \[link to personal fundraising page\]](#) to make a donation during the Cool Down for Warmth event on January 26, 2023.



SAMPLE FACEBOOK MESSAGES

Pre-Cool Down:

- I am participating in Dollar Energy Fund's virtual #CoolDownforWarmth campaign. I am raising money to help local families maintain or restore their utility services and stay warm this winter. Support me as I help local families by making a simple donation on my page - www.givebutter.com/_____.
- Join me by tuning in to KDKA-TV on January 26 to support Dollar Energy Fund's virtual #CoolDownforWarmth campaign. Please consider supporting my efforts as I raise money to help local families maintain or restore their utility service. Take a look at my personal fundraising page and consider joining my team - www.givebutter.com/_____.

During the Cool Down:

- I'm helping our less-fortunate neighbors stay warm this winter! Please consider making a donation on my personal fundraising page - www.givebutter.com/_____. #CoolDownforWarmth
- Dollar Energy Fund's Cool Down for Warmth is happening now on KDKA-TV. Help spread the warmth to our neighbors in need by making a donation on my personal fundraising page - www.givebutter.com/_____. #CoolDownforWarmth

SAMPLE TWITTER MESSAGES

I'm going to #CoolDownforWarmth to help our neighbors with safe utility service. Please consider donating at www.givebutter.com/_____.

Help me spread the warmth on January 26 by donating to local families in need during @DollarEnergyFnd's #CoolDownforWarmth on KDKA-TV. Support the mission here: www.givebutter.com/_____.

I'm joining @DollarEnergyFnd's #CoolDownforWarmth campaign to help families stay warm this winter. Help me give the gift of warmth by donating at www.givebutter.com/_____.

Please use #CoolDownforWarmth whenever possible and tag @DollarEnergyFnd so we can share!



NEED HELP?

If you have any questions regarding the Cool Down for Warmth event or need assistance signing up to participate on Givebutter, please contact us at events@dollarenergy.org.



HAPPY FUNDRAISING!