## Heating Fuel Assistance Applications open 10/14/2025 - 11/14/2025 Prince William County DSS Announces Start of Fuel Assistance Program to Support Local Households This Winter

The Prince William County Department of Social Services (DSS) is pleased to announce the opening of the **2025–2026 Fuel Assistance Program**, designed to help income-eligible households manage rising home-heating costs during the winter months.

The **application period** for fuel assistance will open on **October 14, 2025** and close on **November 14, 2025**. Residents are encouraged to apply as early as possible to ensure timely processing and avoid delays during peak heating season.

The Fuel Assistance Program provides critical support to households facing financial strain from home-energy expenses. Eligible applicants may receive assistance with a variety of heating sources, including electricity, natural gas, oil, kerosene, coal, or wood.

**Fuel assistance** helps with home heating costs; but can also be used for furnace re-starts, late charges, delivery charges, installation charges, and connection or re-connection fees. Benefits are determined and authorizations for deliveries or service are sent to vendors in December.

## Residents can apply:

- **Online:** Through the **CommonHelp portal** at <u>www.commonhelp.virginia.gov</u>
- By Phone: Calling the Enterprise Customer Service Center at (855) 635-4370
- **In Person**: At any DSS service location in Prince William County

Applicants will need to provide proof of income, residency, and heating responsibility. Eligibility is based on household size and total gross monthly income.

Assistance payments are made directly to the household's heating provider on behalf of approved applicants. Additional energy programs, such as **Crisis Assistance** and **Cooling Assistance**, will be available later in the year to provide continued seasonal support.

For more information, call the Prince William County Department of Social Services at **703-792-7500**.