



BRIGHT LIGHTS



EVERYONE SAVING ENERGY – SAVES MONEY FOR EVERYONE

What if everyone were to reduce the amount of energy they use, starting with sealing up air leaks in our homes?

- The demand for energy will decrease.
- The price of energy will decrease.
- Struggling families will pay less for energy for their homes.
- Your donated dollars will go further.
- More families will receive the help they need.

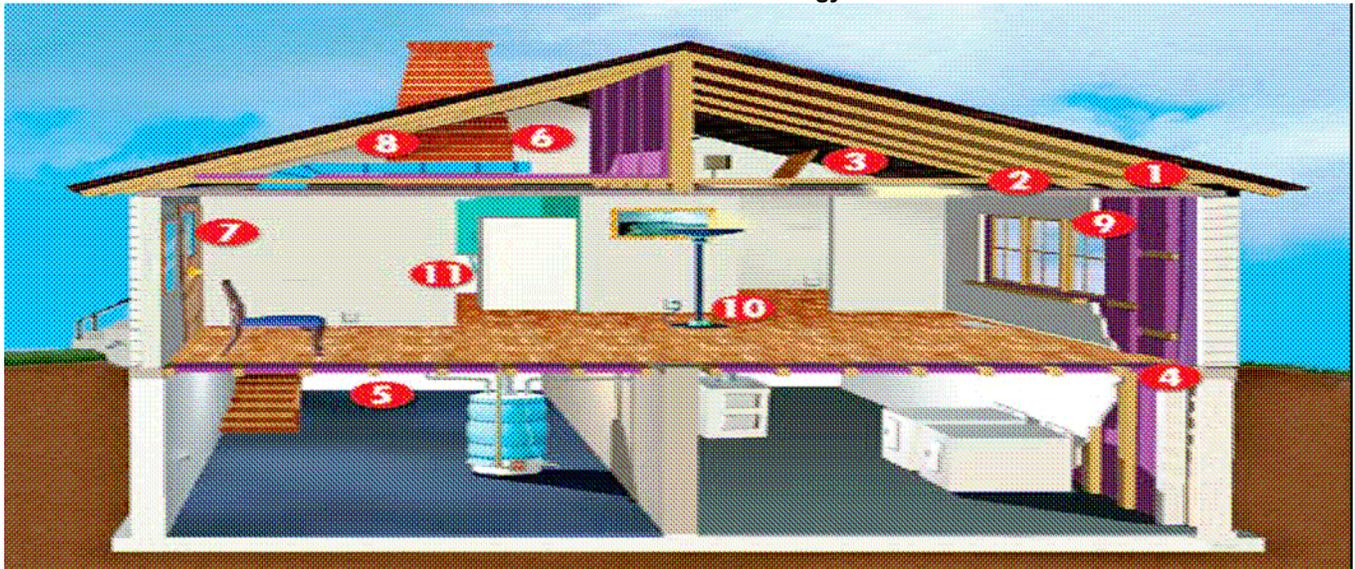
Doing our part to save energy – affects everyone – especially struggling families. The positive impact you make carries on and helps others.

Sealing Air Leaks – One Step in Saving Energy

Warm air leaking into our homes during the summer and out of our homes during the winter can waste a lot of our energy dollars. One of the quickest dollar-saving tasks we can do is caulk, seal and weather-strip all seams, cracks and openings to the outside. We can save as much as 10% on our heating and cooling bills by reducing the air leaks in our homes.*

*Visit www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/ to order booklets or download and view the booklet online.

Areas that leak air into and out of our homes increase our energy bills. Check the areas listed below.



1 Dropped ceiling 2 Recessed light 3 Attic entrance 4 Sill plates 5 Water and furnace flues 6 All ducts 7 Door frames 8 Chimney flashing 9 Window frames 10 Electrical outlets and switches 11 Plumbing and utility access

Look for additional energy saving tips in the future on our website, in the mail and in the next newsletter.



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Calendar Highlights



Friday, October 12, 2007
**Fuel Fund Fairways
at the Woodlands**



Presents
Fuel Fund Fairways Golf Classic 2007
at the Woodlands

Spend a day at Baltimore County's world-class golf venue and support the Fuel Fund of Maryland. Price includes: Golf Cart, Lunch, Cocktails, Dinner Reception and a Gift Bag.

Cost: \$185 Per Golfer \$700 Per Foursome

Sponsorship Opportunities

Includes one foursome and signage:

Putting Contest	\$1,600
Golf Cart Sponsor	\$1,600
Gift Sponsor	\$1,600
Beverage Sponsor	\$1,600

Includes signage only:

Hole Sponsor	\$275
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Questions? Call 410-821-3022 ext. 2
e-mail: Maryk@fuelfundmaryland.org



Fuel Fund Officers and Staff

Rick Phelps, III, President
Marnell A. Cooper, Vice President
James Thierer, Secretary
James Wilhelm, Treasurer
Mary Ellen Vanni, Executive Director
Cindy Amberg, Program Director
Leonie Buchanan-Smith, Development Associate
Danielle Phelps, Volunteer Coordinator
Terry Kennedy, Accounting Services
Mary Kay DiUbaldo, Events Coordinator

Mission

The Fuel Fund of Maryland provides resources to vulnerable Maryland families to assist with their fuel and utility needs.

Spotlight on Volunteers

When it comes to volunteering we are sometimes hesitant to participate for a variety of reasons. Yet, there are many unique ways to volunteer and get involved. Here is one man's story:

Baltimorean, A. J. Alper, works as a graphic designer for Legg Mason by day and pursues his passion of painting by night.

With a BFA in illustration from the Art Center in Pasadena, California he moved to New York where he continued to paint. His graphic design work paid the bills.

Alper and his wife moved to Ecuador where he was able to develop his personal work and paint on a regular basis.

Now, living in Baltimore with his wife and two small children, Alper is hard at work for Legg Mason. Alper says "Painting is too important to me so even though I have my day job ... I make time to paint, even if it is in the middle of the night or on my vacation days."

One of Alper's first donations was to the Fuel Fund of Maryland last year. He admits it was partly to get exposure but found it was a graceful way to help a worthy cause and get involved! What creative way can you find to get involved with the Fuel Fund?

Call Danielle Phelps (410) 821-3022 ext. 106.

See Alper's artwork at aj@ajalper.com.



Cindy Amberg – Program Director

The Fuel Fund of Maryland is proud to announce the addition of Cindy Amberg to its staff as Program Director.

As a consultant to the Fuel Fund, Cindy audited the program records for each local agency last year.

Currently, she is responsible for ongoing program planning, development, accountability and maintenance, communication and training of local agency staff and community outreach to agencies to implement the program.

Cindy's career includes positions with the Maryland Energy Assistance Program at the state level and in Baltimore County.

Light Strokes from the President

Dear Friends:

I have been a part of the Fuel Fund of Maryland for many years, on the golf committee, on the board, as an officer and now as newly elected board president.

Because of your support, the Fuel Fund did not have to turn one family away in 2006-2007. Together, we made a difference in the lives of over 18,000 individuals in Central Maryland.

As more and more families fall into greater and greater need, the challenge is to increase our level of support, while also maintaining the highest level of accountability in our business practices.

Families need adequate help to make a real difference, as it does now.

I look forward, over the next two years, to building on the accomplishments of the past in order to meet the needs of the future.

As a new president, I am learning every day. If you would like to share your thoughts on the Fuel Fund, please call the office. You do sustain the organization and your opinion and comments matter very greatly to us.

Once again, thank you for the kind generosity and helping hand that you have extended to those in need. In many ways, you are the Fuel Fund.

Sincerely,



Rick Phelps, III
Board President

RAYS of Hope

Recently, a young single mother who is a product of generational poverty, found the courage to ask for help with her \$1,500 utility bill, the result of missed payments and un-insulated housing.

This 25 year old and her toddler came to the door of 1118 Ward Street in Baltimore City. Greeted as a guest, in the manner of Paul's Place's philosophy of service, she went inside and told her story.

Paul's Place staff listened and then told her how they could help. If she could manage over the next 6 weeks to pay 1/3 of her bill, the Fuel Fund and Paul's Place would match her payments.

As a cosmetology student, it was not easy to earn money and she had none on that day. Encouraged by the staff, she renewed her hope, put her mind to raising a few dollars and returned to Paul's Place with her receipts

She had made 5 payments over 6 weeks, ranging from \$50 to \$150. Paul's Place and the Fuel Fund did the rest. This guest continues her education and her journey out of poverty.

Paul's Place Outreach Center, one of the more recent sites for Fuel Fund services, sits in a South Baltimore neighborhood known affectionately as "Pig Town".

In another era, the narrow streets in this row-house community had been the scene of pigs on their way to market. Such a rural image is hard to imagine in 2007.

In addition to their immediate neighbors in the 21223 and 21230 zip codes, Paul's Place will now receive guests from 21217 and 21225, including Sandtown-Winchester, Westport and Cherry Hill for Fuel Fund support.

Moreover, the center will expand their Fuel Fund hours to every Friday morning when as many as 20 guests may apply for help.

What a "Ray of Hope" this special place is to so many individuals who need so much support!

Story provided by Katie Sheffield, Paul's Place

GIVING THROUGH AN IRA ROLLOVER

HOW AN IRA ROLLOVER WORKS

Anyone who has reached the age of 70½ is allowed to exclude from his/her income any IRA (Individual Retirement Account) funds up to \$100,000 withdrawn and transferred to a charity when filing a tax return for the year of the transfer. In ten months, the IRA Rollover provision brought over \$69 million to charities (according a recent National Committee on Planned Giving survey).

BACKGROUND/URGENCY

The IRA Rollover is limited, as it only allows for direct gifts of cash from IRAs by individuals who have attained the age of 70½. Such gifts are capped at \$100,000 per year.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Designate the Fuel Fund of Maryland, tax number 52-1204629, as the charity to which you want to transfer any IRA funds that you exclude from your income when filing your tax return for 2007. You may also urge elected officials to extend the provision beyond 2007!

Source: Association of Fundraising Professionals e-mail alert.

The Fuel Fund of Maryland does not share, sell, lease, or otherwise provide contributor information to any other organization or business. The Fuel Fund of Maryland, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization – donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Financial report is available upon request from Fuel Fund of MD, 305 W. Chesapeake Ave., Suite 115, Baltimore, MD 21204-4435. Telephone number (410) 821-3022. Documents and information filed in accordance with the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act available upon request from the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of printing and postage.



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