

EnergyCare



The Connection

A publication of EnergyCare • (314) 773-5900
www.energycare.org

Founded by Sr. Patricia A. Kelley, CCVI

Summer, 2009

First Bank Helps Cool St. Louisans

EnergyCare and its clients were once again this summer, the recipients of a wonderful act of kindness. First Bank, Hazelwood, and its employees generously took up a collection for the purchase of new air conditioning units to be presented to EnergyCare for distribution among those who are in criti-

cal need of summer cooling.

This year, 64 air conditioners were contributed through the kindness of First Bank employees, bringing the total over the past eleven years to 344 units.

Through this annual drive, begun by Mr. Ed Furman, Senior Vice President in 1999, First Bank matches cash contributions by employees and purchases units which are then presented to EnergyCare. The presentation this year took place on July 23rd.

EnergyCare's Board of Directors and staff are grateful to our friends at First Bank for their generosity and concern for the well-being of our low-income, medically at risk St. Louis area neighbors!



Mr. Ed Furman (l), Senior Vice President First Bank, presents EnergyCare Executive Director Dennis Kelley (r) with some of the 64 new air conditioning units for distribution among low-income St. Louis area residents.



EnergyCare At Work

Although summer 2009 has been unusually mild to this point, service providers have been busy, quietly protecting our low-income, at-risk neighbors!

From the beginning of the Summer Cooling Program on May 1st through mid-July, service providers have made 286 home visits to determine eligibility, ascertain need and deliver services. As a result of the home visits, 112 air conditioners have been installed and 21 previously installed units have been serviced. In total, 133 families (approximately 370 people) have been assisted and remain safely cool and in their own homes.

An additional service offered by EnergyCare is energy assistance. Using funds obtained by grants from the St. Louis Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Missouri Housing Trust Fund and the federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program, EnergyCare has made energy assistance grants in excess of \$74,800.00. Thanks to our ability to offer this service, more than 528 people have remained safely connected to vital utilities.

Cool Club A Tasty Success

June 17th dawned clear and hot and, at Papa John's Pizza, the ovens were even hotter! That Wednesday, a multitude of St. Louisans decided to let Papa John's do the cooking for them, as they ordered pizza. For every pizza sold by the 38 stores in the St. Louis area, \$1.00 was donated to EnergyCare to assist in keeping medically at-risk, low-income individuals and families safe from the effects of

summer heat and humidity.

On July 17th, the founder of Papa John's Pizza, "Papa" John Schnatter, personally presented a check for \$3,489.00 to Dennis Kelley, President and Executive Director of EnergyCare, and Ed Cronin, Chairman of the Board of Directors. Also representing Papa John's Pizza was Area Supervisor, Chris Scott.

This was the eighth year of the Papa John's **Cool Club** event, a partnership among our friends at Papa John's Pizza, KMOV TV Channel Four and EnergyCare. Over the past eight years, Papa John's has donated over \$48,000 to assist EnergyCare's Summer Cooling Program.

EnergyCare thanks everyone who participated in Papa John's **Cool Club** by purchasing a pizza! We look forward to another successful Cool Club event next year!



Papa John's Cool Club Check Presentation: (l-r) Chris Scott, Ed Cronin, Dennis Kelley, "Papa" John Schnatter.

Save The Date!

Do you have a penchant for remembering dates, names, places, and events? Do you enjoy dazzling people with your brilliance?

If you answered YES to either of the preceding questions, then we have an event that you will love!

Preparations are being made for EnergyCare's **First Annual Trivia Night** which will be held on Saturday, **November 14** from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

As details are finalized, we will keep you posted. Please hold the date open and join us!

EnergyCare Mission Statement

EnergyCare promotes healthier, safer home environments and independent living by providing year-round energy-related services in St. Louis communities for low-income households with persons who are elderly, disabled, or chronically ill, and young children.

Our vision is that EnergyCare will:

- * Continually strive to meet energy-related needs of the community it serves;
- * Empower clients through education;
- * Advocate for client's needs;
- * Draw attention to the energy-related needs of the people we serve;
- * Improve our clients' quality of life by promoting efficient use of energy in the home;
- * Promote human dignity through personal interaction with the people we serve;
- * Provide services that are a model of collaboration.

We believe that EnergyCare values:

- * All people as responsible human beings;
- * Clients' desire for self-determination and independence;
- * Social responsibility, financial accountability and good stewardship;
- * Interpersonal relationships with all stakeholders;
- * Conservation of natural resources.

The People We Serve

Eileen is a real person who has received assistance from EnergyCare. She is representative of the many low-income elderly, disabled, ill or very young people EnergyCare helps year in and year out. Service provider Kenneth Cattage describes his experience working with Eileen.

Earlier this summer Steve Baer, one of our summer service staff members, and I had the opportunity of meeting a very charming lady by the name of Eileen.

Eileen is 63 years young, blind, a double amputee, and suffers from congestive heart failure. She has also been recently diagnosed with cancer. In spite of her difficulties, she has a smile that lights up the room.

Owing to her condition, she is forced to spend most of her time in a wheelchair, but enjoys watching old western movies on television. Despite her health issues, she continues to lean on her Faith and sees each day that she is given as a blessing.

Eileen was brought to our attention through the concern of her grandson, who was unable to purchase an air conditioner for her, owing to having been laid off from his job. The day that we stopped by to see her, it was extremely hot, both outside and inside the house. All that she

had to help keep her cool was a fan, which wasn't helped by the fact that all the windows were closed.

After we explained who we were and why we came to see her, Eileen smiled and began to clap. We installed the air conditioner in Eileen's room and turned it on; the relief was immediate!

Eileen and her daughter were both very appreciative and thankful for the service that EnergyCare had provided to them.

Even though Steve and I were pretty well drained by the heat, Ms. Eileen's smile was just the boost of energy that we needed to get through the rest of the day.



Summer Intern Assists Program

EnergyCare was pleased to be able to host a service intern again this summer. We welcomed Robin Lane, a St. Louis native, who graduated from Webster Groves High School in 2007, and is currently a junior at the University of Pittsburgh. Robin is majoring in Sociology with a certificate in Women's Studies.

At the University of Pittsburgh, she serves as the chair of the political action committee for the Campus Women's Organization. She is also active in the Pittsburgh community where she volunteers as a mentor for an at-risk high school senior. Robin also completed two years of work-study at the Carriage House Children's Center, in Pittsburgh, where she was engaged as a teacher's aide with children aged 6 months to 3 years. Most recently, she worked as a field organizer on the Obama presidential campaign and as an associate in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.

Besides school activities and work

commitments, she told us that she enjoys a variety of hobbies such as reading - with a particular penchant for Annie Proulx, W. Somerset Maugham, and biographies. She also plays the guitar and enjoys swing dancing.



Summer Intern Robin Lane

At EnergyCare, Robin got a full taste of how we serve the low-income community, and participated in all aspects of our mission from answering phones and doing client in-takes and referrals to installing air conditioners.

Although only with us for a month, Robin told us that she was "thrilled to be working at EnergyCare this summer and to have an opportunity to give back to the St. Louis community." Her efforts have helped to make EnergyCare's services available to more people in the low-income community and ensure that as many at-risk people as possible were reached this summer. We were fortunate - and grateful - to have her assistance and wish her all the best as she continues her studies and into the future!

A Word From Our Donors

"I was so thankful to read of someone [Sr. Pat Kelley, CCVI] with love for people in need - when she first began this program many years ago, and I have been a supporter ever since. May her soul rest in peace."

LLR, Ferguson, MO

"I read about your group in the paper and saw you on TV. It was your letter to my mother who donated that really cemented my desire to also help. I know this won't buy an air conditioner, but maybe others will help. God bless you in your endeavor."

KAH, Wentzville, MO

"God bless you for the wonderful work that you do!"

GGK, Kirkwood, MO

Share Your Email Address With Us!

In order to keep in touch with our donors, volunteers and potential volunteers in a more efficient and “greener” way, EnergyCare needs your email address. Email will allow EnergyCare to send electronic newsletters to its entire family at the click of a button. It will also allow notices about upcoming events to be sent sooner, so that you know what is happening at Energy-Care. Some examples of this are advanced notice about the annual air conditioner drive, blanket drives and, coming in November, EnergyCare’s Trivia Night.

Sharing your email address with EnergyCare will not only provide us with an easier and faster way to keep in touch with you, but will also help to save money on printing and postage costs. The savings, in turn, can be used to supply additional client services. And, with reduced paper usage and less reliance on the postal system, and the energy that is consumed in the mailing process,

the bonus to the environment is substantial: a leaner and “greener” EnergyCare!

It is our promise that EnergyCare will never share or sell your contact information. Your email address is as safe with us as your home address. If you are willing to share your email address with us, simply fill out the panel below, cut it out, and send it back to us in the return envelope included your mailed copy of the newsletter with your donation (*postage is prepaid*). Or, to get your email address to us even more quickly, go to our website (www.energycare.org) and sign the guest book!

If you have any questions, please contact EnergyCare’s Director of Development, Tom Gardner, at (314) 773-5968 ext.23, or email him at:

tom@energycare.org

Thank you for your assistance!

Yes! I am happy to share my email address with EnergyCare!

ID # _____ (found in the upper right hand corner of the mailing label)

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Email address _____

(Please Print)

EnergyCare Re-accredited By BBB

This past June, EnergyCare was, once again, awarded the Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability seal by the Better Business Bureau of Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois. What this means is that EnergyCare voluntarily submitted documentation on its organization and fundraising practices and meets all 20 of the accountability standards developed by the Better Business Bureau dealing with how a charity: governs its organization; the ways in which organization money is spent; in the truthfulness of the organization’s representations; and in its willingness to disclose basic information to the public.

The Standards for Charity Accountability were developed to assist donors in making sound giving decisions and to foster public confidence in charitable organizations. The standards seek to encourage fair and honest solicitation practices, to promote ethical conduct by

This seal ensures donors that EnergyCare is responsible and ethical in its fundraising practices.

charitable organizations and to advance support for philanthropy.

The Standards for Charity Accountability were developed with professional and technical assistance from representatives of small and large charitable organizations, the accounting professions, grant making foundations, corporate contributions officers regulatory agencies, research organizations and the BBBs. The BBB Wise Giving Alliance also commissioned significant independent research on donor expectations to ensure that the views of the general public were reflected in the standards.

The overarching principle of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability is full disclosure to donors and potential donors both at the time of solicitation and thereafter. The standards also recommend ethical practices that go beyond the act of disclosure in order to ensure public confidence and to encourage giving. As voluntary standards, they also go beyond the requirement of local, state and federal laws and regulations.

EnergyCare is honored to have been awarded this seal of accreditation!

Views From The Executive Director

One of the most repeated questions I receive during the high heat and humidity of summer is: “What did people do before air conditioning?”

A St. Louis Post-Dispatch article of July 12th, 2009, provided an historical answer. The article highlighted the hottest day in St. Louis recorded history and was aptly titled: **When It Was 115 In the Shade**. Tim O’Neil provided his readership with a look back on July 14, 1954. By 5 p.m. that day, the official thermometer at Lambert Field read 115 degrees.

Tim educated us that air conditioners cost \$200 at the time—a figure that didn’t sound too expensive at first blush. He further pointed out, however, that the cost represented approximately 5% of the total annual average salary for that time; a hefty investment in comfort that most families earning \$4,000 a year just couldn’t afford. So, the residents of St. Louis did what they could—they slept in back yards and local parks. They attended movies in air cooled theaters. Children ran thru lawn sprinklers and adults took extra showers.

Twenty people died that day from the heat. By the time the prolonged heat wave was over a week later, the death toll stood at 104 lives.

Thanks to modern technology and generous hearts like yours, even the poorest among us can now enjoy the health benefits of air conditioning during St. Louis summers. Your continued generosity throughout the years has enabled EnergyCare staff to provide one room air conditioners to over 4,200 medically needy families since 1986. I can only imagine how many lives have been saved during that time span because of your concern and generous response. Many thanks!





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 www.energycare.org

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Remembering EnergyCare in your Will today helps to provide our services to low-income St. Louis area residents tomorrow.

*Since the last issue of **The Connection**, EnergyCare has received memorial and tribute gifts honoring the following:*

Memorials

Rev. Xavier Albert
 The Parents of Doris Baechle
 Clemens Baer
 Aloisia Bartolowits
 Ed Berding
 Jessie Blalock
 Ed Bolesta
 Virginia B. Bramman
 Joseph Brandemeier
 Betty Brazier
 William P. Bumberry
 Dave Campbell
 Frank and Carmel Cavataio
 Tom and Betty Ann Clancy
 Sarah E. Coleman
 Mary, Patrick & Michael Cusick
 Larry L. Dolan, Sr.
 Benjamin C. Downs
 Floyd and Anna Ellis
 Charles and Emma Falk
 Douglas W. Faust
 Sam and Rose Galanis
 Gilbert A. Gennari

Humbert and Mary Ghio
 Charles B. and Marie L. Goodhart
 Fred and Mary Guilbault
 Mrs. Florence Haas
 Richard and Rosemary Hagerty
 Rachel Haskel
 Joseph Hickey
 Winn Houlihan
 Michael Jacobs
 Lucille Kaiser
 Robert Kaiser, Sr.
 Deceased: Kelley & Rose Families
 Sister Patricia Kelley, CCVI
 Edward Kessell
 Carolyn Knebel
 Edward and Stella Koziatek
 Joseph and Frances Laramie
 Marian Loida
 Robert and Virginia May
 Clifford M. McNames
 Anne C. Meyer
 Elmer A. Meyer
 Hugo and Albertina Meyer
 Leo and Ida Meyer
 William and Edith Murray

Rev. Richard Nelke
 Nicholas Petruzzelli
 R. Michael Powell, III
 Aloysius J. Proskey, M.D.
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 John and Bertha Quinlan
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 Jack and Karen Ann Richards
 Sister Anne Julia Roddy, CSJ
 Michael and Anna Schmidt
 Phillip Sgroi
 Robert and Rose Silies
 Al Simpson
 John A. Solari
 Gene Staehle
 Joseph David Stumbo
 Lee A. Tyson
 Helen Wiegel
 Kem A. Williams
 Walter Wuertz

Stanley T. Bjurstrom
Father's Day
 Daughter of Mrs. Connie Sorkin
Wedding
 Students of Millstone
 Religious School
Completion of a Successful Year
Birthdays:
 Elmer H. Austermann, Jr.
 Fred Brown
 Joe and Mary Catanzaro
 Mrs. Laverne Downs
 Mrs. Mildred Ferry
90th Birthday
Anniversaries:
 Fr. Joseph Klecha, M.M.
40th Ordination Jubilee
General Tributes:
 Thanksgiving for prayers
 answered
 In Honor of the ill
 Sisters of St. Joseph

Tributes

Individual Tributes:
 Most Rev. Robert J. Hermann
Honoring his support for Life