From: Rick DeAngelis
To:
Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2008 9:07 AM
Subject: Fuel Assistance and Affordable Housing

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing to you to inform you about an important strategy to help residents and owners of affordable rental housing afford the increased cost of fuel this winter. For several months, representatives of affordable housing and the Fuel Assistance Program have been discussing eligibility issues for residents of affordable housing. We are now ready to share several recommendations with you on how best to use this assistance especially in housing in which heat is included in the rent. Please review the attached memo from Sam Falzone of VHFA and myself for these recommendations.

In brief, our message is that there is still time to help the very low income residents of your housing apply for and obtain Fuel Assistance benefits for this heating season. Also, that in order to maximize the assistance that residents may be eligible for and to insure success in the application process, it's important to familiarize yourself with some features of the Fuel Assistance as they relate to affordable housing. There are two ways things to do that:

1. Review the attached memo and call me at 828-3526 if you have any questions
2. Attend a training for housers on use of the Fuel Assistance Program on October 1

The training will be offered in cooperation with the Department of Families and Children which administers the Fuel Assistance Program. It will be held at "the Boardroom" on the 4th floor at 133 State Street in Montpelier and begin at 9:30 am and end by noon. Please contact me (Rick DeAngelis at 828-3526 or email rick@vhcb.org) to let us know if you will be attending.

Rick DeAngelis
Associate Housing Director
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board

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