

## Glacier Electric Cooperative Policy 518

### Crisis Intervention Program

Subject: Glacier Electric Crisis Intervention Program

Objective: To establish a working relationship with the Blackfeet Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program/LIHEAP in jointly administering the Crisis Intervention Program.

Program Description:

A) Glacier Electric will set aside universal systems benefit program (USBP) funds to be used for the Glacier Electric Crisis Intervention Project.

B) Glacier Electric members will be referred to the Blackfeet Tribe LIHEAP office in Browning or to assigned GEC staff in Cut Bank for processing. All recipients of funding will be responsible for completing an instructional session regarding conservation and energy efficiency issues as provided by the LIHEAP office or GEC staff.

C) Households who are in a situation where their electricity is no longer available, have been shut off or will be shut off or a situation that has caused a financial hardship that is beyond the household's control, may be eligible for Glacier Electric crisis intervention assistance.

These emergency funds will be used to ASSIST the household with electric bills and not intended to pay 100% of electric bills.

Priority will be given to households who have elderly, handicapped, young children, or bedridden person. This is a one-time per calendar year assistance program.

The amount of assistance provided per eligible household will be a maximum of \$400.00 for electrically heated homes, and a maximum of \$200.00 for homes using other sources of heating. The exact amount of payment will be the cost of providing the energy supply, or the \$400.00, or the \$200.00, whichever is less; and is a one-time per calendar year

payment that will be applied as a credit on member's electric account. The Board of Trustees of Glacier Electric Cooperative will establish funding limits for the crisis intervention program. Requests will be addressed on a first come first serve basis.

The LIHEAP staff or assigned GEC staff will make the necessary calls, and or visits to determine that these conditions have occurred or could occur. Every effort will be made by this office to assure that there is documentation from reliable sources to verify the crisis situations. The household will be required to submit complete documentation that this household is in a crisis situation.

The LIHEAP staff and GEC staff will complete an annual report outlining program expenditures. The report will include members name and amount of assistance provided.

D) Unspent crisis funds will be held for distribution under the Glacier Electric Crisis program into the following fiscal year.

Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees of Glacier Electric Cooperative to periodically review funding requirements of this program. It will be the duty of the General Manager to oversee the program.

President: Miles Lewis

Effective Date: November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Miles Lewis Board of Trustee – President

Signature: Miles Lewis