



**Serving the Newly Vulnerable**  
**NEUAC June 2010**  
**San Antonio, Texas**

# New Jersey SHARES

New Jersey SHARES(NJS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1998 to assist our neighbors who have fallen behind on their natural gas and electric utility bills due to a temporary financial crisis.

A financial crisis can happen to anyone regardless of age, income, or household situation. NJS helps those who do not qualify for other energy assistance programs. Households that are receiving LIHEAP and NJ Universal Service Fund credits are not eligible for the NJS program. NJS partners with 254 community based organizations and legislative offices offering 278 intake sites across the state.

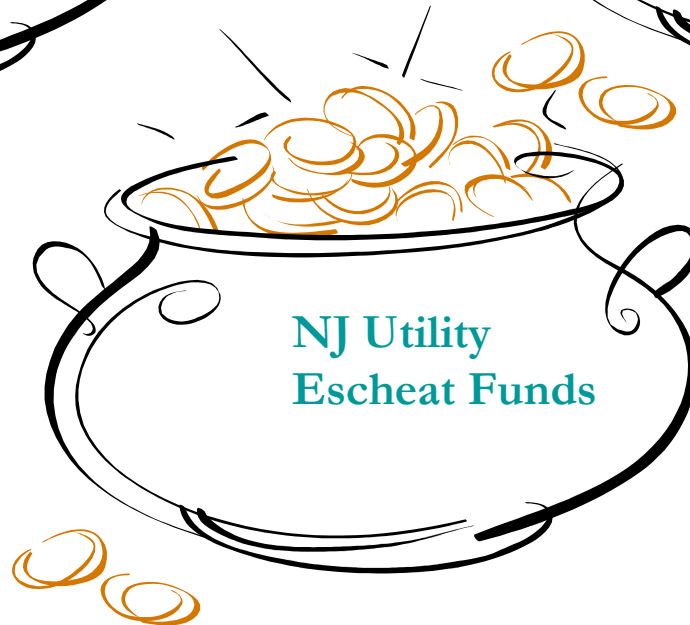
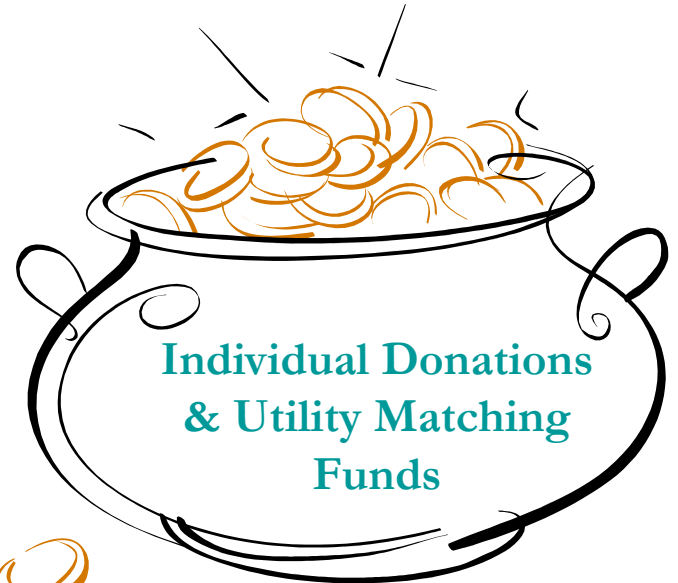


# NJS Programs

- **NJS is the statewide energy fund assisting natural gas, electric, and deliverable fuel customers throughout NJ. We partner with all of the regulated energy utilities in NJ, the Fuel Merchants Association of NJ and the NJ Propane Gas Association.**
- **NJS provides statewide outreach and client services for the Verizon NJ Communications Lifeline Program.**
- **NJS assists United Water Company residential customers experiencing a temporary financial crisis in nine states.**
- **NJS administers the New Jersey American Water Company discount rate and assistance programs.**
- **NJS manages and staffs the LIHEAP and Universal Service Fund call center for the State of NJ.**



# NJS Funding Sources



# Energy Assistance Grants

- Maximum grant of \$700 for natural gas
- Maximum grant of \$300 for electric
- If a client heats with electric a maximum grant of \$700 may be awarded.

**New Jersey SHARES grants must continue or restore service and cannot be applied toward deposits.**



# **New Jersey SHARES**

## **Energy Assistance Program**

### **November 1998 – May 2010**

- **Assisted more than 165,000 households**
- **Awarded grants in excess of \$63,500,000**



# NJS Client Information

**NJ SHARES recipients are likely to have vulnerable household members!**

- **60% had a child 18 or younger in the home**
- **Average household had 2.8 members**
- **Average household had 1.3 members contributing income**
- **13% were single parent households**
- **89% had employment income**



# NJS Client Information

- **12% had pension or retirement income**
- **5% had unemployment compensation**
- **5% had disability income**
- **2% received child support**
- **3% had other sources of income**



# NJS Client Information

## Annual Household Income

- **<\$20,000** **3%**
- **\$20,000 - \$29,999** **18%**
- **\$30,000 - \$39,999** **26%**
- **\$40,000 - \$49,999** **21%**
- **\$50,000 +** **32%**
  
- **Mean Annual Income** **\$45,567**
- **Sustainability in NJ is between 250-400% of FPL**
- **RCL for a family of three in NJ** **\$54,930**



# NJS Client Information

## Household Poverty Level



## Household Size



# NJS Client Information

**The crisis is temporary for many families. Our uncertain economy may impact this in the future.**

- **81% needed assistance for one year**
- **14% needed assistance for two years**
- **4% needed assistance for three years**
- **1% needed assistance for four years**
  
- **NJS grant covered 64% of balance**
  
- **14% Applied at a Legislative Office**
- **86% Applied at a Non-Profit**



Jim Jacob  
New Jersey SHARES  
1901 North Olden Avenue Extension  
Suite 1A  
Ewing, NJ 08618  
609.883.1478  
jjacob@njshares.org

