



### **Community Recognized for its Generosity to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund**

(May 2, 2008) Williamsville, New York: Hundreds of families in western New York have enjoyed some peace of mind this past winter thanks to the generosity their community showed in supporting a local heating assistance program called the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund.

On behalf of these families, National Fuel, the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities extend their gratitude and are pleased to recognize the outstanding generosity of the community to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund, which opened in January. Since 1983, this fund has provided assistance to thousands of families in western New York for energy-related costs.

National Fuel's western New York-area customers regularly donate more than \$8,500 each month to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund. This year, the following were also among those contributing:

- ❖ Dominion, headquartered in Richmond, Va., is the largest natural gas pipeline company serving New York State through its interstate gas transmission subsidiary, Dominion Transmission. National Fuel would like to thank Daniel A. Weekley, Dominion's managing director, Northeast Government Affairs, for coordinating Dominion's generous \$5,000 donation to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund.
- ❖ In January, the National Fuel Gas Company Foundation contributed \$67,000 to the Fund. Thanks to National Fuel employees, an additional \$4,900 was donated to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund.
- ❖ National Fuel employees have also designated \$1,300 to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund through the Company's Employee Charitable Giving Program, which is matched with a gift from the National Fuel Gas Company Foundation of \$670. The Employee Charitable Giving Program allows employees to designate a specific dollar amount to be given to qualifying 501 (c)(3) organization of their choice, and provides a match from the National Fuel Gas Company Foundation up to \$300 dollars per person, per year.

Since the opening of the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund, contributions from the community, the Foundation and National Fuel employees total more than \$6 million, and have been used to help nearly 15,000 families in need of assistance. Last year, 638 families received more than \$172,000 in grants made possible by generous contributions such as those mentioned above.

Individuals may qualify for a Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund grant if they are at least 60 years old, if they, or a household member, have a handicap, disability, or medical hardship, and if they live in National Fuel's service territory (even if they are not a National Fuel customer). Eligible applicants also must have sought help from the federally funded Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). Those who meet the program requirements are encouraged to seek assistance from the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund by applying at their local office of the Salvation Army or Catholic Charities. Individual grant amounts are determined by need with a standard grant amount of \$400.



Donations to the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund can be made easily through customers' monthly National Fuel gas bill by adding \$1, \$2 or \$5 to the monthly payment. Customers can also designate a regular pledge amount by calling 1-800-365-3234, or by enrolling to do so via National Fuel's Web site, [nationalfuelgas.com](http://nationalfuelgas.com). In addition, the Salvation Army receives direct donations to the Neighbor For Neighbor Heat Fund at: Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund, c/o The Salvation Army, 960 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14202 (please make checks payable to Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund).

The Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund, in western New York and northwestern Pennsylvania, is funded with generous contributions from National Fuel customers and employees, private entities, and National Fuel's shareholders. Additional information about the Fund is available by calling National Fuel at 1 (800) 365-3234 or by visiting [www.nationalfuelgas.com](http://www.nationalfuelgas.com).

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