



### **Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund Providing Assistance To Those in Need**

(August 26, 2008) Williamsville, N.Y.: National Fuel would like to remind its customers in western New York that heating assistance through the Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund is still available. The Program is accepting applications for assistance to qualifying western New Yorkers to receive a one-time grant of as much as \$400.

**The Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund**, a first-come, first-served home-heating grant program is open to provide assistance to elderly and disabled western New Yorkers, or those experiencing a certified medical emergency, to pay for energy-related expenses. This fund was established by National Fuel in 1983 and has offered grants totaling more than \$3.8 million to nearly 15,000 persons.

In order to qualify for a grant from the Neighbor For Neighbor Heat Fund, an applicant must be 60 years old or older OR they, or a member of their household, has a handicap or disability that reduces the household's income OR has a certified medical emergency. Applicants must reside in National Fuel's service territory, however, they are not required to be a National Fuel customer.

Eligible families or individuals in need of payment assistance are encouraged to contact the Salvation Army at (716) 883-9800, extension 230, the Chautauqua Office for the Aging at (716) 753-4471 or Catholic Charities at (716) 856-4494, extension 3010. Those agencies process and approve applications. National Fuel does not process grant applications. Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund grants were increased to a maximum of \$400 recently as a way to help western New Yorkers cope with higher energy costs this year. The final grant amount made will be determined by need. The Neighbor for Neighbor Heat Fund is administered by the Salvation Army and is sponsored by National Fuel, the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities. The program is funded with generous contributions from National Fuel customers and employees, private entities, and National Fuel's shareholders. Please contact the Salvation Army or Catholic Charities agency to apply.

National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation comprises the utility segment of National Fuel Gas Company, a diversified energy holding company that is engaged in a number of natural gas-related activities. The Utility provides natural gas service to approximately 500,000 customers in western New York. Additional information about National Fuel and its customer services is available at <http://www.nationalfuelgas.com> or by calling 1 (800) 365-3234.