

RMLD



Reading Municipal Light Department  
RELIABLE POWER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# Press Release

## ***Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund's 2021 "Give the Gift of Warmth" Campaign Underway***

**Reading, MA** – The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund's (GNEF) 2021 "Give the Gift of Warmth" campaign is now underway with the goal of raising \$500,000 to provide energy assistance to more than 1,500 households in need throughout the Commonwealth. The Fund helps families in temporary crisis who do not qualify for federal or state assistance with the payment of their energy expenses.

Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) customers who wish to support the Fund can "Give the Gift of Warmth" by using the green-colored Good Neighbor Energy Fund donation envelope found as an insert in their January electric bill. Customers can also donate online by visiting [www.magoodneighbor.org](http://www.magoodneighbor.org), or by mailing a check payable to "Good Neighbor Energy Fund" to the Good Neighbor Energy Fund, c/o The Salvation Army, 25 Shawmut Road, Canton, Massachusetts 02021-1408.

Those in need of assistance can apply to the Fund by visiting a local Salvation Army Corps Community Center or by calling 800-334-3047. This campaign year's Fund disbursement is \$300 per eligible household per heating season. Household gross income must fall between 60 and 80 percent of the state's median income levels to qualify. The Salvation Army, which administers the Fund, pays the energy provider directly.

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is often the last resort for families who do not qualify for federal and state assistance programs. The GNEF has raised more than \$22.5 million and assisted over 91,250 households in need since its inception in 1985.

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**About Reading Municipal Light Department:** Established in 1894, Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) is a municipal electric utility serving over 70,000 residents in the towns of Reading, North Reading, Wilmington, and Lynnfield Center. RMLD has over 29,000 meter connections within its service territory.