# The Medical-Legal Partnership for Children | Miami Valley

WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH

The MLPC is a partnership among: Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE), Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. (LAWO), Dayton Children's Hospital, Five Rivers Health Centers, and the Community Health Centers of Greater Dayton.

## MAINTAINING YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH BY MAINTAINING UTILITY SERVICES

### Why is maintaining utility services critical to your child's health?

» Utility services keep the lights on, heat and cool our homes, give us water for washing and food preparation, and allow us to keep medications cold and medical equipment functioning.

» Lack of utilities can cause asthma to get worse, cause anxiety for household members, result in use of alternative and unsafe heating sources like electric heaters, stoves and unventilated wood burners in the home leading to injury, health problems and sometimes death.

### What can you do to keep your utilities on?

» Pay your utility bills on time.

» Work with your landlord to make sure that utilities in your landlord's name, particularly water bills, are paid on time and that you receive a billing statement if you are responsible for paying your landlord for water or other utilities under your landlord's name.

### If you are having trouble maintaining your utility services what can you do?

» Apply for **HEAP** (Home Energy Assistance Plan)

» Sign up for **PIPP Plus** (Percentage of Income Payment Program)

### What is PIPP Plus?

PIPP Plus (the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus) is an extended payment arrangement that requires regulated gas and electric companies to accept payments based on a percentage of the household income.

### Who is eligible for PIPP?

(1) a customer must have a total household income which is at or below 150% of federal poverty level;

(2) must receive his or her primary or secondary heat source from a company regulated by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO); and

(3) must apply for all energy assistance programs for which he or she is eligible.

### What will my monthly PIPP payments be?

**Natural gas:**

$10 or 6% of your gross monthly household income each month, whichever is greater.

**Electric:**

$10 or 6% of your gross monthly household become each month, whichever is greater.

**All-electric homes:**

$10 or 10% of your gross monthly household income each month, whichever is greater.

### Resources:

**UNITED WAY HELPLINK:** 2-1-1
**Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area:** (937) 341-5000

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.

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