

# Donation Helps Rhode Islanders in Need Stay Warm

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When the weather gets cold, many of us just turn up the heat without giving it much thought. For some, however, the cold weather presents a considerable challenge as they struggle to figure out how to pay for the heat.

“Imagine being at home with your jacket on at night,” said Bob Keller, President of the National Grid Foundation. “The right to stay warm in the winter should not be a choice. It is a basic human need,” he said. To help Rhode Islanders struggling with their heating bills, Bob presented an \$80,000 donation to the “Keep the Heat On” fund. It was the fourth consecutive annual donation from the National Grid Foundation to the heating assistance program that is managed by the Diocese of Providence.

“Today’s donation is a real reflection on the impact we can have helping the wider Rhode Island community,” Bob added. “Keep the Heat On” helps families and individuals pay their heating bills when all other forms of public and private assistance have been exhausted.

Bishop Thomas J. Tobin accepted the donation on behalf of the “Keep the Heat On” program. “My sincere thanks to the National Grid Foundation for the donation today and for your support over recent years,” the Bishop said. Since 2014, the National Grid Foundation has donated nearly \$400,000 to “Keep the Heat On.”

In total, the heating assistance program has raised more than \$2.55 million to help more than 11,500 Rhode Island families and individuals keep warm in the winter. Meanwhile, the National Grid Foundation has provided more than \$20 million in grants to hundreds of organizations since its inception in 1999.

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