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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Heating assistance available, applications accepted December 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency has funds available for heating assistance for eligible households through North Carolina's Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP). Households containing an elderly person aged 60 and above or a disabled person receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services are eligible to potentially receive benefits beginning December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> or until funds are exhausted. **Any household** can potentially receive LIEAP benefits from January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> or until funds are exhausted.

To be eligible, a household must:

- Have at least one U.S. citizen or non-citizen who meets the eligibility criteria
- Meet an income test
- Have reserves at or below \$2,250
- Be responsible for its heating bills

Payments are made directly to vendors. No check will be mailed directly to the applicant or household member. Payments are \$200, \$300, or \$400 depending on household size, income, and heating source.

Applications can be made at the Haywood County Health and Human Services Agency, located at 157 Paragon Parkway, Clyde, NC 28721. Our business hours are Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Individuals will need to bring the following information with them when they come in to apply:

- Identification
- Proof of all income
- Utility bill (if not in your name, proof of responsibility for payment must be verified) or vendor information (i.e. utility statement with account name and number or name of fuel company to be used)
- Social security numbers for all members of the household when available

For more information call 828-452-6620.