



Operation Fuel, Inc.

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Operation Fuel's Executive Director Will Retire on June 30

Hartford, Conn., -- After more than 18 years as Executive Director of Operation Fuel, Patricia Wrice will be retiring effective June 30.

“This has been a difficult decision. My time at Operation Fuel has been a true labor of love. I’m honored to have been an integral part of this essential organization. But I feel that now it is time to step down,” explained Wrice.

The nonprofit has grown significantly under Wrice’s guidance. During her first year as executive director, Operation Fuel was strictly a winter program, giving out about \$500,000 in energy assistance and Wrice was the only full-time employee. This past fiscal year, Operation Fuel provided more than \$3.6 million in energy assistance.

“We are very grateful to Pat for the leadership that she has provided to Operation Fuel over the past 18 years. Her guidance has helped the agency to grow tremendously and to become what it is today,” said Nancy Bulkeley, chairperson of Operation Fuel’s board of directors.

Under Wrice’s leadership, Operation Fuel has evolved into a statewide, year-round energy assistance program with more than 100 fuel banks throughout Connecticut. During this time, Operation Fuel has become the voice for families and individuals who are struggling with unaffordable energy bills, and brought attention to the energy affordability crisis that currently affects more than 313,000 Connecticut households.

Operation Fuel is conducting a search for the next executive director and expects to make an announcement by late June.

Operation Fuel is a private, nonprofit program that provides emergency energy assistance year-round through its statewide network of fuel banks to lower-income working families and individuals, the elderly, and disabled individuals who are in financial crisis. For more information on Operation Fuel, or to make a donation, go to www.operationfuel.org