

What we're hearing from Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program customers

"With the pandemic I was unable to participate in the Foster Grandparent Program which provides me with a small stipend that I used to pay my fuel bill... VHFA is a **tremendous program** in my mind and I am so thankful that I was able to be included in the program and have my fuel bill paid." --Thomas A., Rutland

"Without the assistance from this program I **would have had to sell my home** and no affordable place in sight I cannot imagine where I would have been. I am so so grateful for the help. And hopefully after my upcoming surgery I'll be able to stay current."—Shayne T., Addison

My husband fell asleep too close to the pellet stove. We were **all very ill** and sleeping. My husband was badly burned and spent 6 weeks in a burn center [but] never really recovered... I had not been able to work... due to care that was needed. The payment of the electric and water bill is a great blessing." --Karleen C., Castleton

"I happened to be in the process of applying for disability when the pandemic hit. So, I wasn't earning much money to begin with. Things only **spiraled out of control** from that point on...[HAP] allowed me to catch up some more." --James H., Bennington

"I lost my good paying job and have had to find two jobs to try and get by. This led to falling behind in my utility bills and my mortgage... I cannot even express how grateful I am to this program and the **wonderful people** who work here. I am now caught up with both my water and electric bills." --Hannah R. (Grand Isle)

"**Everything was due.** Shut off notices. They're going to shut off everything and take my house. ..Suddenly VHAP sent me emails that everything was paid and a 2 ton boulder of worry lifted off of my shoulders. You all are lifesavers. Just the lifting of the stress, I can't describe my gratefulness." --Christine K., Rutland

"My wife lost her job and we relied on my SSDI (which pays less than a third of my income before I became 100% disabled)...[HAP] paid our past due water/ sewer bill and utility bill! Thanks to this program and caring people, it took some **stress off of our back.**"

--Brian W., Lunenburg

"Our business went underwater during the pandemic...This is the first time in 22 years that the **property taxes went unpaid** as we struggled to make mortgage and pay other living expenses... Receiving help through VHFA at this time was critical."

--Mary D., Northfield

"I finally got caught up on my bills so I **didn't have to think about losing my house.** It was a lot of stress relief and peace of mind,"

-- Renee G., Brattleboro

"What an incredible blessing. I'm so grateful for this program, especially now that the **cost of gas and oil** has gone up."

--Susan D., Rutland

"It definitely feels like a **weight has been lifted...** Now we will pray that our business can get back on track and keep us open...We will forever be grateful for your help."—Betty B., Milton

"I was already disabled with a compromised immune system and everything cost more.... I am so thankful that this program was able to help me get caught up on my property taxes which allowed me to stay at my home. The **website made it very easy** to apply. I hope people that really need this kind of help learn about it."

--Michael C., Rutland

