

AGENDA
HCESP Advisory Council Meeting

September 2, 2026 | 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

COA Board Room - 4601 Malsbary Road, Blue Ash, OH 45242

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/280805796252972?p=0VTGzKTMX0bL3c6Z6n>

Meeting ID: 280 805 796 252 972

Passcode: hF7wK3e8

CALL TO ORDER	Janice Hunter
APPROVAL OF MINUTES ❖ June 25 2026 Minutes (Action Needed)	Janice Hunter
OLD BUSINESS ❖ STEPS to Stability Program ○ Utility Credit Criteria Changes (Action Needed)	Kim Clark
HEARING THE PUBLIC	Janice Hunter
ADJOURNMENT (Action Needed)	Janice Hunter

NEXT MEETING: September 24, 2026 (at PACE of Cincinnati – 4850 Smith Rd, Cincinnati 45212)



4601 Malsbary Road
Blue Ash, OH 45242
(513) 721-1025
(800) 252-0155

www.help4seniors.org

Hamilton County Steps to Stability Program Guidelines-Utility Assistance (Updated 8-2026)

1. Eligibility

- a. The applicant must reside in Hamilton County.
- b. The applicant must be 60 years of age or older.
- c. The applicant's household income must be below 300% of the federal poverty level.

2. Utility Credit

- a. The applicant must live at the address for which the utility credit is requested. The applicant's address and account number must match the information Duke Energy has on file.
- b. Utility credits are subject to available funding. As funding becomes available, COA will prioritize applications to promote equitable access to assistance. If applications exceed available funding, the credits may be applied based on random drawing, or if the individual received assistance in the prior year.
- c. The applicant may receive a utility credit of up to \$500.00.
 - i. The Steps to Stability Program serves as the payer of last resort.
 1. If the applicant is eligible for HEAP, the utility credit will equal the maximum available credit minus the average HEAP payment amount.
 2. If the applicant is not eligible for HEAP or another utility assistance program, the applicant may receive the maximum utility credit available.