

# SHARES receives money to help needy families

## HOME GROWN



By Jeff Weber

While parts of Central Jersey are some of the most affluent areas in the nation, there are people living here facing serious financial hardship.

With the state of the economy, the cost of energy, specifically what it takes to heat a home, has been a big topic of discussion. But help is out there.

Elizabethtown Gas, through the AGL Resources Private Foundation, has donated another

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\$40,000 to New Jersey SHARES, Inc. to provide assistance to New Jersey households in need. The foundation, the charity arm of Elizabethtown Gas' parent company, AGL Resources, previously doubled its contribution to New Jersey SHARES.

Since its inception in 1998, New Jersey SHARES has helped 155,000 New Jersey families with more than \$57 million in energy assistance. These new funds will be available right away.

To qualify for New Jersey SHARES assistance, a household must not qualify for federal or state programs and have an income that does not exceed 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. More information is available by calling

866-657-4273 or by visiting [www.njshares.org](http://www.njshares.org).

### New solar system

Last week, the completion of one of the largest pitched roof solar electric systems in New Jersey was celebrated at Fellowship Village Retirement Community in the Basking Ridge section of Bernards. The panels, installed by Millstone-based Absolutely Energized Solar, are expected to reduce 900,000 pounds of carbon dioxide

each year and protect more than 250 acres of trees annually.

Fellowship Village is a nonprofit continuing care retirement community that offers independent living, assisted living, nursing and rehabilitation, and respite care. The 668-kilowatt solar electric system at Fellowship Village includes more than 3,000 solar panels and covers more than 40 percent of

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