



*Powering Connecticut Households Since 1977*

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**News Release**

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## **Operation Fuel Adds Deputy, Policy Director Positions to Better Serve Households Facing Energy Crisis**

HARTFORD, Conn. (January 25, 2020) -- As part of its ongoing efforts to best serve an ever-increasing number of residents facing energy crisis in Connecticut, Operation Fuel has expanded its team to include Deputy Director Darlene Yule and Director of Policy and Public Affairs Gannon Long.

Yule, of Bloomfield, will work in the deputy director role with Executive Director Brenda Watson to provide leadership, direction, and oversight for the organization's strategy, program development, project management, program implementation, and overall agency operations. Yule is a graduate of Russell Sage College and holds a Masters of Public Health from University at Albany.

"I am looking forward to working with Brenda, the Board of Directors, and the entire Operation Fuel team to create a strategic growth plan that prioritizes clean energy and water as a tool to bring environmental justice for impacted communities of color," Yule said.

Long, of Hartford, is policy and public affairs director. Her responsibilities include leading Operation Fuel's government affairs, public policy, and advocacy initiatives and programs. She is a graduate of the University of Chicago and an MBA candidate at the University of Connecticut.

"It's an honor to join Operation Fuel as the organization's first policy and public affairs director, advocating for low- and moderate-income families in Connecticut at the state legislature and regulatory agencies," Long said.

**ABOUT OPERATION FUEL:** Operation Fuel is the only year-round emergency energy assistance program in Connecticut, providing help with electricity, water, natural gas, oil, and other energy bills to residents across the state. Thanks to supporters and donors, Operation Fuel is able to flip the switch for families, helping seniors, children, and people with medical conditions stay warm, keep the lights on, power devices for cooking and refrigeration, and have access to running water for drinking, hygiene, and laundry. If you need help, visit [operationfuel.org/gethelp](https://operationfuel.org/gethelp). To help power families, visit [operationfuel.org/give](https://operationfuel.org/give) and donate or text OPFUEL to 44321

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