



For Immediate Release
Contact: Matt Levy
MLevy@Jonnycake.org
(401) 377-8069 x116
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Jonnycake Center of Westerly Introduces National Grid Consumer Advocate
National Grid Liaison to Offer Assistance for Income-Eligible Residents

Westerly, RI – The Jonnycake Center of Westerly is pleased to announce that a **National Grid Consumer Advocate** is available on site to meet with the public on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The Advocate will be available on a walk-in basis from 9am to 12pm at 23 Industrial Drive in Westerly, with the next visit taking place on **Tuesday, September 24**.

Residents of Westerly, Charlestown, Richmond, and Hopkinton, Rhode Island who may be in need of assistance or unable to pay their utility bills are encouraged to meet with the Consumer Advocate. The Advocate will work with National Grid consumers to review their individual situations and learn if payment options are available that may be more affordable or easier to pay than standard payment plans. The Consumer Advocate will also help answer questions about utility bills or rates.

After September 24, the National Grid Consumer Advocate will be available at the Jonnycake Center on Tuesday, October 22; Tuesday, November 26; Monday, December 9 (note special timing: 12-3pm); Tuesday, January 28; and Tuesday, February, 25. Additional dates will be announced as they are scheduled on the Jonnycake Center’s website and social media.

“We are proud to be the first organization to bring a Consumer Advocate from National Grid to Westerly,” said **Lee Eastbourne**, Executive Director of the Jonnycake Center of Westerly. “As we get closer to winter and home heating bills begin to rise, many in our community will struggle to afford to pay their housing, food, and utility bills. By connecting income-eligible residents directly with National Grid, we hope to ease their burden and keep their families comfortable and safe year-round.”

For more information about the National Grid Consumer Advocate, or other social services offered by the Jonnycake Center of Westerly, including a client-choice food pantry, basic need financial assistance, resource coordination, domestic violence support, legal advice, job training, and more, call Sarah Cote, Social Services Program Director, at (401) 377-8069 x110, visit jonnycake.org, or follow the Jonnycake Center on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

About The Jonnycake Center of Westerly

The Jonnycake Center of Westerly’s mission is to provide a continuum of services in cooperation with other agencies in our service area to assist people through crisis situations and work with each individual to find a path out of dependency toward self-sufficiency. For more information, visit Jonnycake.org, become a fan on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/jonnycakecenter), follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/jonnycakecenter) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jonnycakecenter), or call (401) 377-8069.

