# The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)



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# INSPECTING A CRAWLSPACE



# WEATHERIZATION | WHAT WE DO

#### MECHANICAL MEASURES

- Clean, tune, repair, or replace heating and/or cooling systems.
- Install duct and heating pipe insulation.
- Repair leaks in heating/cooling ducts.
- Install programmable thermostats.
- Repair/replace water heaters.
- Install water heater tank insulation.
- Insulate water heating pipes.

### BUILDING SHELL MEASURES

- Install insulation where needed.
- Perform air sealing.
- Repair/replace windows/doors.
- Install window film, awnings and solar screens.
- Repair minor roof and wall leaks prior to attic or wall insulation.



#### **HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES**

- Perform heating system safety testing.
- Perform combustion appliance safety testing.
- Repair/replace vent systems to ensure combustion gas draft safely outside.
- Install mechanical ventilation to ensure adequate indoor air quality.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms when needed.
- Evaluate mold/moisture hazards.
- Perform incidental safety repairs when needed.





#### **ELECTRIC & WATER MEASURES**

- Install efficient light sources.
- Install low-flow showerheads.
- Replace inefficient refrigerators with energy-efficient models.



#### **CLIENT EDUCATION** ACTIVITIES

- Educate on potential household hazards such as carbon monoxide, mold & moisture, fire, indoor air pollutants, lead paint and radon.
- Demonstrate the key functions of any new mechanical equipment or appliances.
- Discuss the benefits of using energy-efficient products.

# WAP Mission



Department of Energy



#### Grantees (States, Territories & Tribes)



Local Providers (Sub-grantees)



Low Income Households

Mission Statement in WAP Statute: "To <u>reduce energy</u> <u>costs</u> for low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities, and children, by <u>improving the</u> <u>energy efficiency</u> of their homes while <u>ensuring their</u> <u>health and safety</u>."

- 40+ Years of Success
  - Operating since 1976
  - Largest energy retrofit program in the nation- All 50 states, DC, territories
  - Serving up to 200% of poverty level
  - Over 7.4 million homes weatherized

Decreased out ofpocket medical expenses by an average of \$514

Total health and household-related benefits for each unit is \$14,148



# Health Benefits of Weatherization

# After Weatherization...

Residents with asthma reported fewer hospitalizations and ER visits



Residents experienced fewer "bad" physical and mental health days

Children in the household missed fewer days of school





Household members reported fewer allergy and cold symptoms

# WEATHERIZATION | WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS INVESTED IN CREATING THE MOST QUALIFIED ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKFORCE IN THE COUNTRY.

100% OF WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WAP) HOME INSPECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY A CERTIFIED QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTOR. CERTIFIED INSPECTORS RECEIVE TRAINING BY ACCREDITED TRAINING CENTERS. THESE CENTERS OFFER TRAININGS TO PRIVATE CONTRACTORS, BUILDING CODE OFFICIALS & HOUSING SPECIALISTS.

USE OF DOE'S STANDARDIZED WORK SPECIFICATIONS (SWS) ENSURES THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF WORK IN THE WEATHERIZATION & HOME PERFORMANCE INDUSTRY.







# Weatherization + Health in Vermont

http://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/home

#### Home weatherization addresses energy, health and environmental problems

#### Benefits of home weatherization include:

- Reduced household energy usage and cost
- Improved housing conditions, which in turn improve health
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Increased resilience to climate change impacts

**Basic weatherization** (Wx) prioritizes energy efficiency improvements but can include critical health and safety improvements.

Weatherization + Health (Wx+Health) prioritizes delivery of health benefits by including specific health and safety improvements in addition to basic Wx strategies, which may be especially helpful for those with chronic health conditions or accessibility challenges. Wx+Health

Mold remediation Advanced ventilation Pest & dust mite remediation Walk-off mats • Carpet removal Accessibility • Resident education Asbestos, lead & radon remediation

#### **Basic Weatherization**

Insulation • Space heating • Water heating Air sealing • Windows/doors • Basic ventilation Programmable thermostats • Carbon monoxide monitors Evaluate presence of moisture & mold • Combustion safety

Wx+Health builds on basic weatherization strategies





https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/energyoffice/low-income-solar

First state to receive DOE approval to integrate rooftop solar

Low-income community solar demonstration project



### "Pre-WAP" Programs: Making Homes Weatherization Ready

### **Services Provided:**

- Mold Remediation
- Moisture Control
- Pest Control
- Electrical Repairs
- Structural Repairs
- ► Roof Repairs







"The weatherization program was life-changing for me. It inspired me to pay it forward and help others live lives of hope and dignity."

-Kelly, Washington

"I used to use the stove to keep the house warm, it wasn't really comfortable in any way."

-Claudette, Colorado



"You could trust them and we were very impressed with them. By the time they left it felt like we had an extended family"

-Al and Loretta, Indiana

# **Contact Information**



National Association For State Community Services Programs

NASCSP provides research, analysis, training and technical assistance to <u>State CSBG and WAP grantees</u>, Community Action Agencies, and State Associations in order to increase their capacity to prevent and reduce poverty and build economic and energy security.

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