

AHFC Weatherization Program

FY2015 Request: \$29,000,000

Reference No: 50683

AP/AL: Allocation

Project Type: Energy

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Les Campbell

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2019

Contact Phone: (907)330-8356

Appropriation: AHFC Energy Programs

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Weatherization Program provides federal U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) and state funds to assist low and moderate income families attain decent, safe, and affordable housing through cost effective weatherization and rehabilitation of existing homes. Weatherization provides energy efficiency upgrades to homes using the latest building science tools to target heat loss areas and correct them. Installed measures must be cost effective. The program addresses health and safety through tune-ups for heating systems, electrical and chimney repairs, and woodstove improvements.

Funding:	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$9,000,000
Gen Fund	\$27,500,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$177,500,000
Total:	\$29,000,000	\$31,500,000	\$31,500,000	\$31,500,000	\$31,500,000	\$31,500,000	\$186,500,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec1 Ch16 SLA2013 P178 L6 SB18 \$31,500,000
 Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P131 L30 SB160 \$31,500,000
 Sec4 Ch4 SLA2011 P138 L8 SB46 \$64,000,000
 Sec1 Ch43 SLA2010 P35 L13 SB230 \$4,000,000
 Sec22 Ch11 SLA2008 P101 L24 SB256 \$200,000,000

Project Description/Justification:

This program provides cost-effective energy improvements to homes of low-income families.

The projected outcomes are:

- Reduce household operating costs of the resident;
- Improve resident health and safety;
- Improve durability and longevity of housing stock;
- Replace unsafe heating systems;
- Install smoke detectors in homes;
- Install carbon monoxide detectors in homes.

Program Description:

The Weatherization program provides U.S. DOE and state funds to assist families in attaining decent, safe, efficient, and affordable housing through the weatherization and rehabilitation of existing homes.

Weatherization provides services to the following:

- Approximately 66% of households contained either a senior citizen or a disabled person;
- 37% had children under the age of six;
- Many clients attended client education training that focused on long-term maintenance efforts as well as the effects of the weatherization work if successfully maintained; and
- Weatherization addresses life-threatening, health, and safety issues in many homes.

Much of the older housing stock cannot maintain a minimally comfortable indoor temperature. Since April 2008 we have completed work on approximately 11,000 units expending over \$220,000,000 dollars. Program clients include elderly, disabled, or families with small children. Most of the families receiving services are 'working poor' and do not receive Public Assistance. With the extreme rise (up to 30%) in cost of materials and shipping to Alaska, the dollar invested does not stretch nearly as far. Increased funding has allowed priority measures to be implemented in homes as well as expanding services to a greater number of eligible participants.

Weatherization improves occupant health and safety through the replacement of unsafe heating systems and installation of carbon monoxide detectors. Carbon monoxide problems are resolved, fire safety threats alleviated, egress windows installed, handrails and steps repaired, and moisture and mold problems abated. Client health improves as toxins and asthma triggers are removed and ventilation issues are addressed. Technology has developed concurrently with the program and provides the foundation for improved approaches to new construction for arctic conditions.

Benefits of weatherization:

- Reduces overall fuel use / saves client's dollars;
- Contractors and crews are hired locally and receive training (wages spent locally);
- Materials are purchased from local Alaskan vendors;
- Helps keep people in their existing homes, reducing the need for public housing;
- Savings from fuel costs reinvested in local economy;
- Client education on long-term operations and maintenance (O&M) required to maintain houses;
- Weatherization techniques improve building stock by addressing critical durability issues;
- Health and safety of residents are dramatically improved due to mitigation of problems in the home, i.e., rot, mildew; and helps in eliminating ice dams; and
- Egress windows, smoke alarms, and CO detectors are installed to protect families from fire and carbon monoxide poisoning.

AHFC's ability to properly diagnose and correct problems in existing housing stock through the Weatherization program helps provide a safe, clean environment to clients improving the overall quality of life and a better life for their families.