

AHFC Weatherization Program

FY2017 Request: \$1,500,000
Reference No: 50683

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Health/Human Services
Location: Statewide
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2016 - 06/30/2021

Project Type: Energy
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Contact: Les Campbell
Contact Phone: (907)330-8356

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) weatherization program provides United States Department of Energy (DOE) and state funds to help 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: | FY2017 | FY2018 | FY2019 | FY2020 | FY2021 | FY2022 | Total |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1002 Fed Rcpts | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$9,000,000 |
| 1004 Gen Fund | | \$6,600,000 | \$6,600,000 | \$6,600,000 | \$6,600,000 | \$6,600,000 | \$33,000,000 |
| Total: | \$1,500,000 | \$8,100,000 | \$8,100,000 | \$8,100,000 | \$8,100,000 | \$8,100,000 | \$42,000,000 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <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 Ch38 SLA2015 P6 L29 SB26 \$7,100,000
- Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P62 L17 SB119 \$29,000,000
- 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:

The purpose of this program is to provide 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; and
- Install carbon monoxide detectors in homes.

The Weatherization Program provides services to the following client profile:

- Approximately 66% of households contained either a senior citizen or a person with disabilities;
- 37% of households contained children under the age of six;
- Many clients attended education and training sessions that focused on long-term maintenance efforts as well as the effects of the weatherization work if successfully maintained.

Much of the older housing stock cannot maintain a minimally comfortable indoor temperature. Since April 2008, AHFC has completed work on approximately 11,000 units and expended over \$220 million. Program clients include the elderly, persons with disabilities, and families with small children. Most of the families receiving services are 'working poor' and do not receive public assistance. Increased funding has allowed priority measures to be implemented in homes as well as the expansion of 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 are repaired, and moisture and mold problems are 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 money;
- Contractors and crews are hired locally and receive training (wages are 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 are reinvested in local economy;
- Clients are educated 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 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 for their families.