

# WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## KNOW THE FACTS



- \$5 billion in Weatherization funds during the ARRA period, as well as \$180 million Weatherization funds in 2010 annual appropriations, cost effectively invested by DOE in low-income energy efficiency.
- 38.6 million households are eligible for Weatherization services.
- As of 2008, over 6.4 million households have been served by the Weatherization Assistance Program since its inception.
- Anticipated that over 650,000 homes will be weatherized during the ARRA period.
- Weatherization saves \$437 in heating and cooling costs year after year at current prices. Savings still higher if lighting and appliances are upgraded.
- Average energy expenditure per low-income household for 2010 is estimated to be \$1,800.
- Energy burden in 2009 for low-income homes was 14.4% compared to 3.3% for non-low income households.
- Americans spent \$231.1 billion this year on residential energy according to ORNL study.
- In 2010, weatherized homes nationally will save \$2.1 billion for low-income families.
- Energy savings average 35% of consumption for the typical low-income home.
- Total U.S. energy consumption in 2008 was 99.3 quads of which 21.8% was residential.
- Reduces residential and power plant emissions of carbon dioxide by 2.65 metric ton/year per home.
- Over the life of the measures, saves 53 metric tons of CO2 emissions per house.
- Weatherization decreases national energy consumption by the equivalent of 24.1 million barrels of oil annually.
- For every \$1 invested in the program, Weatherization returns \$2.51 to the household and society.
  - \$1.80 is returned in reduced energy bills
  - \$ 0.71 is returned to ratepayers, households, and communities.

NOTE - This is different from previous calculations because it takes into account all costs, including T&TA and admin, whereas before we just did the benefit/cost ratio based on the cost of the weatherization job itself.

WAP PROVIDES BOTH DIRECT JOBS AND INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT NATIONWIDE.

When referencing information on this sheet, the following sources should be cited:  
Sources: ORNL/TM-2010/66, EIA February 2010 Short Term Energy Outlook

# Weatherization Talking Points Grid

## Fighting Energy Poverty

- Low-income households, including the elderly, disabled or families with children who can't afford home energy
- \$437 or more in annual utility bill savings year after year at current energy prices
- Energy savings average 35% of consumption for the typical low-income home pre-weatherization consumption
- More household money is made available for other basic necessities, medicine or groceries
- In 2010, weatherized homes nationally will save \$2.1 billion for low-income families

## Investment in America

- Anticipated that over 650,000 homes will be weatherized during the ARRA period.
- For every \$1 invested in the program, Weatherization returns \$2.51 to the household and society.
  - \$1.80 is returned in reduced energy bills
  - \$0.71 is returned to ratepayers, households, and communities through:
    - increased local employment
    - reduced uncollectible utility bills
    - improved housing quality
    - better health and safety
      - reduces heat-related illness and death
      - reduces risk of death from home fires due to utility disconnection

## Weatherization Works

## Climate Change

- Reduces residential and power plant emissions of carbon dioxide by 2.65 metric ton/year per home
- Over the life of the measures, saves 53 metric tons of CO2 emissions per house
- Weatherization decreases national energy consumption by the equivalent of 24.1 million barrels of oil annually

## The Economy

- \$5 billion in weatherization funds during the ARRA period, as well as \$180 million weatherization funds in annual appropriations, cost effectively invested by DOE in low-income energy efficiency
- Provides direct jobs and indirect employment nationwide
- Insurance policy against future price increases; when a low-income home is weatherized, both its energy bill and fuel consumption are reduced each year for many years to come. In times of energy supply and price problems, weatherization recipients are better able to cope with rising prices.
- Community benefits from energy efficient housing stock and increased economic activity

Sources: ORNL/TM-2010/66, EIA  
February 2010 Short Term Energy  
Outlook

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