

# Iowa Weatherization Assistance Program 2006 Fact Sheet

## **Purpose**

The Weatherization Assistance Program is a low-income energy efficiency program administered by the Department of Energy (DOE). Its purpose is to make the homes of low-income clients more energy efficient, thereby reducing the households' energy bills. The program also improves the health and safety of low-income homes. The energy efficiency and health and safety work is done using the most advanced technologies and testing protocols available in the housing industry. States administer the program in accordance with DOE rules and regulations.

## **Eligibility**

A household is eligible for assistance under the Iowa Weatherization Program if the household is receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Family Investment Program (FIP) Assistance, regardless of income or, the household's annual income is at, or below 150% of the poverty level, as established by the Office of Management and Budget.

### **Funding Fiscal Year 2006**

Department of Energy	\$5,153,879
LiHEAP – Wx	\$5,451,478
Utilities	\$4,814,742
Total	\$15,420,099

### **Household Characteristics**

Elderly	34%
Disabled	44%
Young Children	20%
Renters	12%

## **Energy Savings**

The annual savings per home, based on homes weatherized in the 2005 contract year, is \$487.

The savings-to-investment ratio is 1.8. For every \$1.00 spent on the homes, \$1.80 is saved in energy costs over the life of the measures.

### **Top Ten Measures: First-Year Client Bill Savings (Calendar Year 2004)**

• High-Efficiency Furnace Replace	\$223	• Ceiling Insulation	\$78
• Wall Insulation	\$182	• Freezer Removal	\$68
• Standard-Efficiency Furnace Repl.	\$155	• Freezer Exchange	\$63
• Refrigerator Removal	\$98	• Foundation/Crawlspace Insulation	\$66
• Refrigerator Exchange	\$83	• Infiltration Reduction	\$52

## **Number of Homes Weatherized**

Fiscal Year 2005: 2,139 homes

Fiscal Years 1980 – 2005: 118,997 homes

The estimated unmet need is 169,000 homes (per analysis done by Fisher, Sheehan & Colton in 1996 and adjusted for homes completed since then).

## **Health & Safety Measures**

- Inspect all combustion appliances and repair or replace unsafe furnaces (49% of homes) and water heaters (21% of homes)
- Install carbon monoxide or smoke detectors in certain situations (CO alarms installed in 37% of homes)
- Conduct a health and safety assessment of the home and provide information on risks of lead-based paint, and mitigate moisture problems

## **Other Non-Energy Program Benefits**

These non-energy benefits include improved client health and safety conditions, reduced air pollution (reduces carbon dioxide emissions by an average of one ton per home), and retention of affordable low-income housing.

**Further Information:** For further information, contact Jim Newton, Weatherization Bureau, Division of Community Action Agencies, Iowa Department of Human Rights, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 or via phone at 515-242-6314 or via e-mail at [Jim.Newton@iowa.gov](mailto:Jim.Newton@iowa.gov).