

Innovative Outstanding Weatherization Assistance News

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Wishing you a
Happy New Year!

From all of us in the
Bureau of Weatherization in
Des Moines!

Jim, Gwen, Mark, Chris,
Mike and Rosemary

Welcome

This is the first of what we hope will be a quarterly newsletter for the Iowa Weatherization Program. The purpose of the newsletter is to share with you information on all aspects of the program as well as spotlight a couple of agencies in each issue. We will provide information on upcoming events, training schedules, monitoring schedules and general news about the program. There will be a section of questions we have received from you and the answers provided. The section called Speed Bumps lists various problems Mike has found during state inspections.

Chris Taylor, who is our editor-in-chief, will be contacting agencies for information. This can include staff news, program

highlights or any other news fit to print.

If there is anything you would like to see included in the newsletter or have information to get out to everyone, please let us know.

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Statistics

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QTRLY</u>	<u>* YTD</u>
Houses Worked On	586	1283
Completions	531	1141
Closed Incomplete	55	142
Owner Occupied	567	1249
Rentals	19	34
Elderly Occupied	282	565
Disabled Occupied	268	619
Furnace Replacements	183	415
Refrigerator Replacements	209	359
Freezer Replacements	84	155
Average Costs Per House	\$4214.01	\$3959.20

Totals for all agencies combined
*** YTD (Program Year)**

Agency Spotlight

There are eighteen wonderful Community Action Agencies throughout our state that provide exceptional programs to their communities. It is each of those agencies, that we would like to spotlight in the **IOWAN (Innovative Outstanding Weatherization Assistance News)**.

Many of the Community Action Agencies throughout Iowa conduct holiday projects, special trainings for staff, classes for community members, and other programs such as Head Start, LIHEAP and the Weatherization Program to assist the community. Be sure to include information about a program that may be unique or going well. There is no need to limit the scope simply to the Weatherization Program. Information you provide may assist another agency in their endeavors.

We would also enjoy learning about any awards the agency or staff have received, as well as changes within the agency, such as an agency move, new staff and retirements.

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Each agency is encouraged to submit an article to the Weatherization Bureau in Des Moines at the address below. Articles will be included in upcoming editions, which will be distributed quarterly. If possible, include a picture of your staff.

We look forward to your articles and hope that you will enjoy learning more about each other. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Tentative 2003 Program Monitoring Schedule

January – Polk County, City of Des Moines
February – MICA
March – SIEDA, SE Iowa
April – Mid-Sioux, Woodbury
May – Upper Des Moines
June – SCICAP, MATURA,
July – North Iowa, Northeast Iowa
August – Threshold, New View
September – Community Opportunities, W. Central
October – TRAIN
November – HACAP

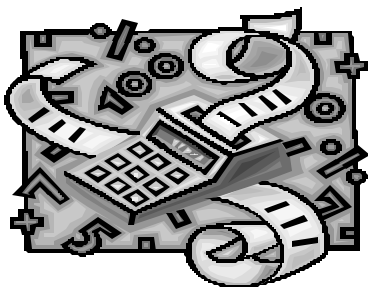
Please submit articles and photos to:

Bureau of Weatherization
Lucas State Office Building, 2nd Floor
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Fiscal News

Tips from the Fiscal Monitoring Team By: Jim Mezera and Mike Adams

As the Numbers Crunch



One of the testing procedures that we do when we monitor your agency is to balance the information from the 102 report with the documentation contained in the weatherization home files.

Following is the procedure used in testing.

1. Add up all funding sources for materials, labor, health and safety, support and landlord contribution that is attributed to the home from the DOE, HEAP, ECIP, Primary Utility, and Secondary Utility contracts. This information is taken from the 101 or the 102 reports.
2. Using the invoices and other materials in the weatherization file as documentation, match the totals spent for materials, labor, support, health and safety, and landlord contribution up to total of funding sources for the home.

There are several simple things you can do to assist in this process and also better document your files.

- ◆ Although it is not a requirement of the contract, it is very helpful for you to write the weatherization file number on them. That way, when reviewing transactions we can reference the expense to a specific file in case there is a question.

- ◆ Separate out material and labor on invoices.
- ◆ On furnaces and water heater repair or replacement, it is helpful not only to separate our materials and labor but also venting (materials and labor).
- ◆ If a weatherization item exceeds established limits (water heaters, furnaces, total weatherization cost, etc) be sure to have a copy of the approval to exceed—if you had one.

These items not only help in our monitoring but also will better document your files so that anyone who reviews them will have more information to better understand what happened.

Tentative 2003 Fiscal Monitoring Schedule

February – SCICAP, Mid-Iowa
 March – TRAIN, City of Des Moines
 April – Community Opportunities, W. Central
 May – Upper Des Moines, MATURA
 June – Mid-Sioux, Woodbury
 July – SIEDA, Southeast Iowa
 September – Northeast Iowa, North Iowa
 October – New View, Threshold
 November – HACAP

We'll be there to your agencies within the next 12 months. If we can be of assistance to you please feel free to contact us.

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Questions and Answers

Question: Can walls over windows be drilled for wall insulation?

Answer: We do allow agencies to drill areas over windows rather than taking off siding if it is agreeable with the client. It can be less damaging than removing the siding, especially if only a small area is involved.

Question: If the tightness limit of a home is reached, but there are some walls missing drywall (such as an entry way), should we install drywall where it is missing?

Answer: It would not be necessary to do the drywall, but would be allowable as a repair cost and would need to be included in the NEAT audit.

Question: Do you need to install vapor barrier on the ground if you are insulating the floor or underbelly?

Answer: Yes, the vapor barrier needs to be installed.

Question: Can blown fiberglass be used in walls when there is no sheathing or if the siding touches the ground?

Answer: Yes, you may use blown fiberglass if the conditions warrant its use. Cellulose is to be used whenever possible.

Upcoming Events

January 2003

14-15 *Moisture and Ventilation Training*, Super 8 Motel, Conference Room, 804 W. Taylor, Creston, Iowa. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.

22 *State Plan Public Hearing*, Lucas State Office Building, Room #208, Des Moines, Iowa. Hearing begins at 10:00 am. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.

February 2003

25-26 *Moisture and Ventilation Training*, Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation, 305 Montgomery Street, Decorah, Iowa. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.

26 *IWAC Meeting*. For more information, contact Mike Loos at (563) 324-3236.

March 2003

31- *Affordable Comfort Conference 2003*, Kansas City Marriott Downtown, Kansas City, Missouri. For more information, log on to www.affordablecomfort.org

April 2003

23 *IWAC Meeting*. For more information, contact Mike Loos at (563) 324-3236.

News



2003 Weatherization State Plan

We are in the process of writing the 2003 Weatherization State Plan. A public hearing on the plan will be held at 10:00 a.m. on January 22, 2003 in Room 208 of the Lucas State Office Building. Because the final appropriation for the Weatherization Program is not yet known, we will base the budget and agency allocations on the FY 2002 funding level.

SLICE Report

The SLICE Report for Calendar Year 2001 is done. We are in the process of having copies printed for the agencies and other interested parties. The report shows that the Iowa Weatherization Program achieved annual client bill savings of \$310 per household, up from an average of \$244 the previous year. The increase in client bill savings reflect higher installation rates of major measures, the addition of refrigeration measures, and higher fuel costs experienced during CY 2000.

Air Sample Testing

Northeast Iowa Community Action Agency recently conducted air sample testing on some slate-sided homes. The air samples have been sent to a laboratory

for analysis to determine the airborne concentration of fibers. The test results will be sent to agencies when the tests are completed.

Agencies are required to do a hazard exposure assessment prior to removing any slate siding. The assessment may take into account any previous monitoring results conducted at a job site where similar procedures/standards were followed for slate siding removal. We have periodically conducted air sample testing in order to provide agencies with air sample test results that can be used for the hazard exposure assessment.

Pollution Occurrence Insurance for Lead Paint

DOE is advising local agencies to ensure that adequate pollution occurrence insurance for lead paint is part of their liability insurance. Due to the added cost of this insurance and the fact that many local insurance carriers are not even familiar with this coverage, NASCSP (National Association of State and Community Programs) is negotiating with various carriers for a nationwide policy that would provide coverage for member local agencies. If NASCSP is successful in this endeavor, local agencies would pay NASCSP for their share of the coverage premium. NASCSP is estimating that the cost may be about \$10 per home. We will make DOE funds available for agencies wishing to take part in this. We will notify you when more details become known.

NEAT Audit Costs

We have come up with agency-specific material and labor rates for the main measures in NEAT for each agency. We will be sending those to the agencies with updated fuel cost information, asking that the agencies update their NEAT Audits with the new information.

Mobile Home Energy Audit

We have been given a beta copy of the revised Mobile Home Energy (MHEA) Audit to review. This version of the audit has been developed by Oak Ridge National Laboratories and should look similar to the NEAT Audit. If and when the audit becomes final, we will schedule training on it.

RESOURCES

www.msdsonline.com

Obtain MSDS data sheets on-line

www.energystar.gov/homeimprovement

Obtain Energy Star information on-line

[www.eren.doe.gov/buildings/
weatherization_assistance](http://www.eren.doe.gov/buildings/weatherization_assistance)

Learn about the U.S. Dept. of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program

www.waptac.com

Weatherization Assistance Program Technical

Speed Bumps

- ◆ Meter readings for refrigerators and freezers need to be in the database even if you are not replacing them. The time metered and the actual reading are to be used.
- ◆ Gas lines passing through the furnace cabinet are to be hard pipe. A fused switch is also to be installed on new installations on or within two feet of the furnace.
- ◆ Insulation barrier is to be installed around recessed lights.
- ◆ Floored attics are to be dense packed.
- ◆ Ceilings of tuck-under garages are to be dense packed.
- ◆ Wall insulation needs to be done over windows and inside porches. Walls need to be insulated at the air barrier of the home.
- ◆ The requirements for sealing wall cavities and by-passes can be confusing. In most all cases you can dense pack instead of sealing off wall cavities, slants, or floor cavities from the kneewall. Some agencies require their contractors to seal them regardless of the circumstances. We require that they be dense packed or sealed. When there is fiberglass in the slants or exterior walls and they are open to the attic, they must be sealed or dense packed also. If you are unable to get a good dense pack to seal the cavity you need to use a material that will stop the air and it must be sealed, not just friction fit.
- ◆ Brick chimneys need to be sealed between the brick and the liner. This applies when this happens above the roof or in the attic.

Please feel free to copy and distribute.

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