

National Center for Healthy Housing conference call March 2nd 2009

Sustainable Resources Center, Inc. is a non profit organization based in Minneapolis Minnesota, serving low-income children, families and communities throughout Minnesota.

SRC has two program areas each representing 50% of total agency budget.

Low Income Weatherization Assistance
Lead Hazard Control, including community outreach and education.

U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program.

Mission

Reduce energy costs for low income Americans by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety.

Operation

- DOE works in partnerships with state and local agencies to implement the program.
- Weatherization programs operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and among Native American Tribes.
- These local agencies provide weatherization services to every county in the nation.

Operation

Many of these agencies provide other services, such as:

- Housing rehab programs
- Lead hazard reduction
- Emergency repair or financing
- Home foreclosure prevention

Needs assessment

High energy usage can create an unmanageable burden for low-income families. Low-income families often cut back on other necessities to pay their energy bills.

The Weatherization programs identify households most in need of services.

Prioritization

- High energy usage or burden
- Senior citizens
- People who have disabilities
- Families with children
- Disaster relief and emergency situations for people who income qualify for the program. (some people are not aware that they are eligible for services)

WAP Services

Weatherization technicians use advanced energy audits and diagnostic equipment to identify the most cost effective, energy savings for each home.

All installed measures must have a savings to investment ratio (SIR) of greater than 1 to be an allowable expense

WAP Services

Measures may include, but not limited to:

- Adding insulation.
- Sealing attic bypasses, reducing air leakage and improving comfort.
- Heating and cooling system safety and efficiency checks. Tune ups and replacements as needed.
- Client education

Technical Advancements

Weatherization agencies have established a professional delivery system to provide quality energy efficiency services and materials. The integration of advanced technologies have increased the programs impact.

Health and Safety

DOE has policies and provides guidance on

- Asbestos
- Mold
- Lead
- All Weatherization crews are required to attend Lead Safe Weatherization training. (this policy and training course are currently being reviewed and updated)

Health and Safety

In Minnesota all houses are inspected after the work has been completed.

Due to our cold climate, homes are tightened up as much as possible.

In general we achieve a 20% to 30 % reduction in air leakage.

Health and Safety

Special attention is paid to checking for:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Spillage or backdrafting of combustion appliances
- Depressurization limits of the home (caused by exhaust fans)
- Proper ventilation, to insure good indoor air quality.

Weatherization

National Energy Audit Tool - NEAT

Diagnostics	Diagnostic Test Report and Ventilation Worksheet: Includes blower door readings, attic pressures taken by auditor, contractors and inspector; pressure balance worksheet and worst case draft test.	Ventilation Moisture Control Air Filtration
Weatherization Audit	Input Report: Information about house, client and fuel usage, info about house components including walls, windows, doors, unfinished attics, finished attics and foundations	Ventilation
Mechanical	Heating System Summary: Includes detailed description of system, flue gas analysis, vent tests, carbon monoxide and heat rise tests, normal operating conditions draft test, thermostat details, description of furnace components such as burner and pilot, blower and belt, controls and accessories including air filter. Water heater description and operations are also examined including flue gas analysis, carbon monoxide, venting information, water temp	Ventilation Moisture Control
Enhanced Ventilation	Ducts/Infiltration - Air/Duct Leakages: Blower door readings, zonal pressure readings, pressure balance readings, pressure pan readings, base load for water heater.	Ventilation Moisture Control Air Filtration
Health and Safety	Smoke detector, co monitor needed, attic: recessed lights, chimney/flue shielding, wiring problems, ventilation inadequate, water leaks, moisture problems, vermiculite; Walls: wiring problems, water leaks, moisture problems, lead based paint, asbestos; Basement/Crawlspace: vapor barrier needed, wiring problems, water leaks, plumbing leaks, moisture problems, worst case draft, wood stove/fireplace, cook stove, clothes dryer, bath/kitchen exhaust fans, heat exchanger.	Ventilation Moisture Control Air Filtration
Humidity Control	Moisture meter readings, assessing existing air flow rates	Moisture Control
Measures	Weatherization Audit Recommended Measures: Includes the annual energy savings, energy saving measure economics, materials, loads and measures work orders.	Ventilation Moisture Control
Xcel Energy Home Electric Savings Program		
Electric Usage Tool	Energy Use Evaluation: Annual electric costs to operate water heater, clothes dryer, refrigerator, light bulbs, air conditioner	Behavior Modification
Appliance Recycling/Replacement	Old appliance info collected, appliance exchanged for Energy Star rated new appliance	Energy use reduction
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Basic Educational Component	Lead Safe Weatherization	Behavior Modification

Lead Hazard Control		
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Lead Compliance	Paint Inspection/Risk Assessment - ECOSpec	Lead hazard mitigation
	Lead Hazard Control	Lead hazard mitigation
	Clean to Clearance	Lead hazard mitigation
	Clearance Testing	Lead hazard mitigation
Education Team		
Education and Outreach	In-home visual assessment and education	Behavior Modification
Education and Outreach	Blood lead level screening with filter paper	Behavior Modification

Healthy Homes Components		
Alliance for Healthy Homes		
Extended Education	"How Your House Works!" An EZ guide and workbook to Home Health principles	Behavior Modification
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Health and Safety	Help Yourself to a Healthy Home	Behavior Modification
	Arsenic -EPA	Hazard mitigation
	Radon Test – Minnesota Department of Health	Hazard mitigation
	Humidity Control	Moisture Control Behavior Modification
Seattle/King County		
Extended Education	Home Environmental Checklist: Survey of dust and cleaning, ventilation and moisture, pets and pests, safety by observation and interview.	Moisture Control Behavior Modification
City of Minneapolis - HUD Healthy Homes Grant		
Asthma/Allergy	SRC will take and receive referrals from the City of Minneapolis with regard to suspected/confirmed cases of children with asthma	Asthma Referrals
Minnesota Department of Agriculture		
Extended Education	Pest Management Kit	Behavior Modification

American Lung Association
AmeriCorps Programs
Head Start
Community Action Agencies
State Health Departments
City/County Government
Universities, Community Colleges
Department of Agriculture
U of MN Extension Offices
Housing and Urban Development Grantees

PARTNERS

Find your local weatherization provider
Talk to agency Executive Director
Talk to WX Manager
Talk to WX Auditors
Talk to WX clients

WORKING WITH WX

March 2, 2009

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