Nebraska Energy Office

News Release



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October 30 is Weatherization Day in Nebraska

Program Assists Individuals with Energy Efficient Improvements

LINCOLN – Each year, communities across the country mark October 30 as National Weatherization Day. Weatherization Day is an opportunity to highlight the impact of the Nebraska Weatherization Assistance Program. Nebraska weatherization service providers in eight regions of Nebraska have been weatherizing homes for low-income and elderly citizens for more than 42 years.

Eight non-profit community service providers operate the program. Since the Weatherization Assistance Program began, over \$204 million went to make energy efficiency improvements in more than 68,800 Nebraska homes affecting the lives of thousands of Nebraskans, many of who are elderly, disabled, and families with children. The program helps conserve energy and saves income for other basic needs. "The Weatherization Program is a powerful example of cooperation and coordination at local and state levels," said Jim Macy, Interim Director of the Nebraska Energy Office. "Relying on local service providers enables us to address the needs of those needing help, and we get the added benefit of saving our energy resources."

Clients apply through their local community action agency or non-profit housing provider to determine eligibility. Weatherization improvements include weather-stripping, insulation, replacing broken glass and performing furnace and water heater inspections. Estimated energy savings for the last 40 years totals \$118.5 million

"Our community service providers pay close attention to detail in the weatherization work performed on homes," said Tom Tabor, Nebraska Energy Office Weatherization Program Manager. "Clients are identified by income and other factors, and then receive services as part of the program."

Weatherization efforts contribute to the state's economic, social, and environmental progress by creating jobs; improving the housing stock; stabilizing neighborhoods; reducing homelessness; eliminating carbon emission; and reducing the risks of fire. The program has gained the growing support of public and private interests.

Measurable impacts from the program in a typical year are over \$180,000 for electric and natural gas dollar savings, with a future savings discount value of over \$1.1 million.

For information about who to contact for services, please visit: http://www.neo.ne.gov/wx/wxindex.htm#contacts.

The Nebraska Energy Office was created in 1977 to promote the efficient, economic and environmentally responsible use of energy. It is an authoritative voice and comprehensive resource center for energy issues in the State of Nebraska, and plays an important role in fostering new growth in our renewable energy industry. For more information, please visit www.neo.ne.gov. *Join the Energy Office on Facebook and follow on Twitter.*