

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Homes that are safe, comfortable and energy efficient contribute to the well-being, health, and overall economic stability of people living on fixed and low incomes. This becomes all the more critical during the COVID-19 pandemic, when people have been directed to stay at home in order to save lives. The Weatherization Program provides energy use audits, weatherization services, furnace repair and replacement, and appliance replacement to fixed and low-income households through both County staff and contracted vendors.

Program Summary

ISSUE: According to the Department of Energy, every home weatherized saves its occupants an average of almost \$300 annually on energy bills. Low-income residents pay a higher percentage of their income on energy costs compared to higher-income residents (Office of Efficiency & Renewable Energy). Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color are disproportionately more likely to experience these burdens due to historic and continual underinvestment. The Weatherization Program works to alleviate some of the challenges faced by low-income and BIPOC communities by saving people money, reducing pollution impacts and improving health, fighting the climate crisis, and, through use of contracted vendors, helping people get back to work.

PROGRAM GOAL: The goal of the Weatherization Program is to improve the livability and affordability of housing for low income residents. Weatherized homes have improved livability, reduced energy consumption, lower utility bills and improved health & safety. Energy efficiency can significantly reduce the energy burden, and result in improved health of those living in the home, habitability of their home and significant greenhouse gas savings.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: The Weatherization Program provides comprehensive home energy audits to low-income households, including older adults, people with disabilities, Veterans, communities of color and families with children. These energy audits indicate the scope of repairs and/or improvements necessary in the home in order to reduce energy use, lower utility bills, and provide a safe and comfortable environment. Weatherization services resulting from this audit include the following services delivered by local contractors: insulating attics, floors and walls; air and duct sealing; repairing/replacing heating systems. Every household also receives energy education, as well as information and resources for other community services. The Weatherization program was the first in the State of Oregon to reopen after the pandemic closed weatherization services. The Board of County Commissioners and the State of Oregon approved the COVID Safety Protocols, which allowed County staff and contractors to resume work in FY 2021. Program operation continued under those protocols and provided funding to pay for additional Protective Personal Equipment necessary for this work.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of households served ¹	171	250	250	250
Outcome	Number of affordable multi family housing units maintained for 10 years ²	2,905	50	50	50

Performance Measures Descriptions

¹This number includes a combined total for single family and multifamily units, which is a single family house or a multifamily unit. The output for FY 2019 is low due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

² Weatherization of multifamily buildings requires a commitment to a minimum 10 years of affordability. "50" is the number of multi-family units to be added in 2022. The larger number is the amount under a 10-year agreement. Most of these units were weatherized during ARRA 2009-2012. with twice the funding. The number will drop as the 10-year agreements end.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$0	\$766,217	\$0	\$760,867
Contractual Services	\$0	\$3,279,214	\$0	\$3,263,776
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$200,215	\$0	\$284,970
Internal Services	\$0	\$456,597	\$0	\$293,171
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$4,702,243	\$0	\$4,602,784
Program Total:	\$4,702,243		\$4,602,784	
Program FTE	0.00	6.87	0.00	6.60

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$4,157,243	\$0	\$4,057,784
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$545,000	\$0	\$545,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$4,702,243	\$0	\$4,602,784

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$110,970 in indirect revenues.

\$2,206,642 - OHCSO ECHO (SB1149)

\$809,032 - OHCSO Low Income Energy Assistance Program - Weatherization

\$545,000 - Beginning Working Capital

\$500,000 - County Weatherization Rebates

\$455,796 - OHCSO DOE Weatherization

\$40,000 - PDX Water and Sewer FR

\$26,314 - Low Income Energy Assistance Program - Client Education; \$20,000 - Energy Conservation show rebates

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 25121 YFS - Weatherization