

Weatherization Assistance: The Energy/Housing Nexus

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Low Income Forum for Energy

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Homes and Community Renewal

Energy Cost is a Housing Issue, and Housing Conditions are an Energy Issue

- NYS Housing Conditions - most severe in US?
 - 40% of renters cost-burdened (>30% income for housing)
 - 70% of low-income households have cost-burden or housing condition problems
- Often, energy costs are the difference
 - Weatherization can reduce cost-burden by up to 10%
- About 60% of housing >55 years old
 - Older units: more health, safety, energy deficiencies
 - e.g., higher incidence of lead hazards, unsafe heating
 - Housing conditions make efficiency harder to achieve



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Weatherization Funding

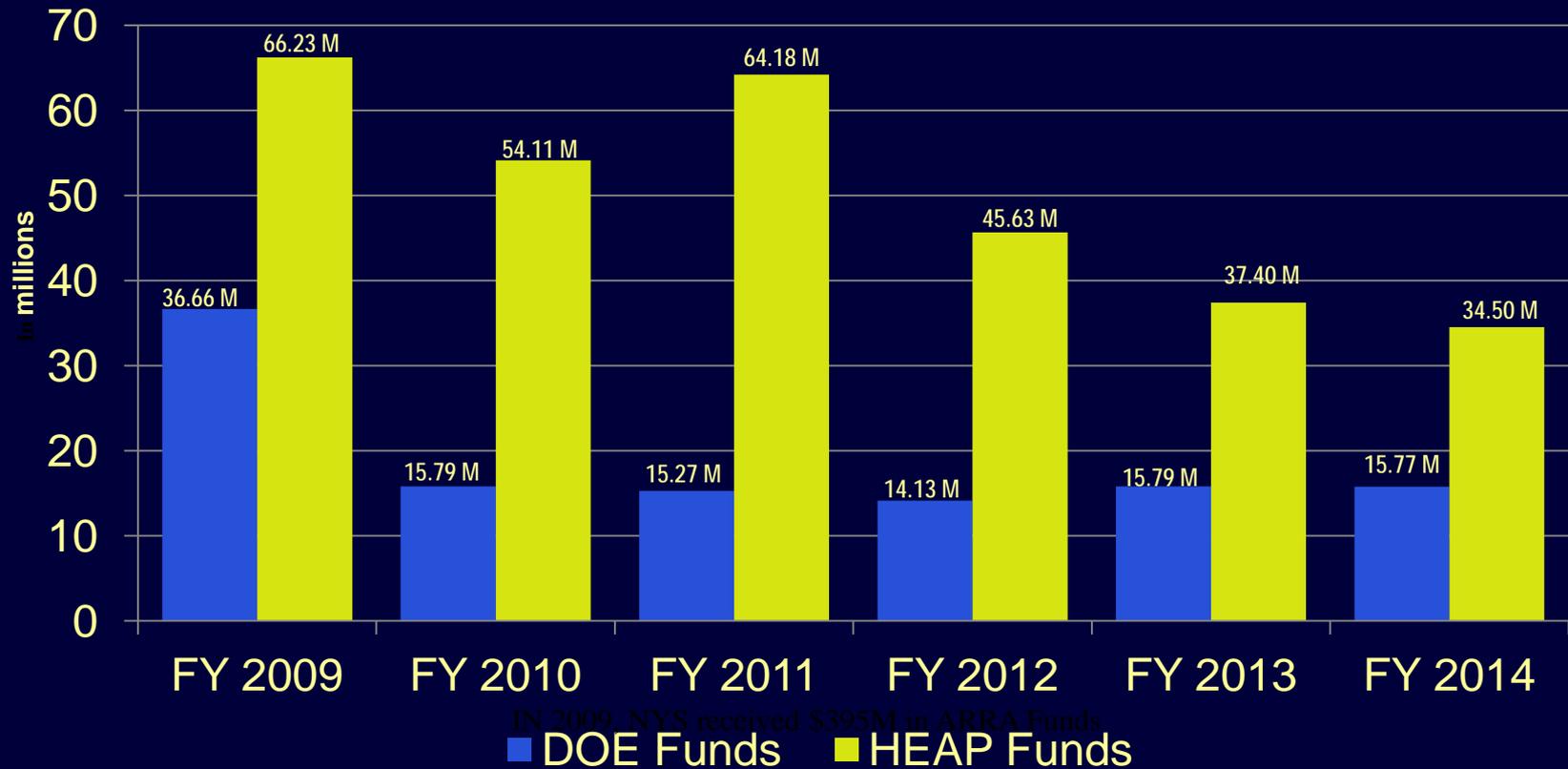
- Federal funding threatened (US DOE, HHS)
 - NYS leading national efforts to restore DOE Wx funding and support use of HEAP for efficiency
 - FFY 2015 outlook uncertain
- Need to get the word out on benefits of Wx
 - Quality work
 - Effective at reducing costs
 - Preserves affordable housing
 - Health & safety and other non-energy benefits



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NYS Weatherization Assistance Program Funding



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Weatherization Assists Thousands of Low-Income Household Every Year

- PY 13 - \$53 million invested, 8,200 units so far
- PY 14 - \$48.9 million, will assist 7,500 units
- Program supports hundreds of jobs
- Each year's funding saves the equivalent of 40,000 barrels of oil annually
- Subgrantees prioritize HEAP clients, elderly, disabled, families with children
- About 60% of assistance to rental units
- Helps preserve affordable housing



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Weatherization Initiatives

- Quality management initiative
- Automating field operations/monitoring
- Coordination with NYSERDA and PSC:
 - Renewables, especially in multifamily
 - Gas conversion (National Grid pilot)
- Healthy homes
- Keeping focus on whole-house approach
- Supporting the assisted housing stock
- All while maintaining production levels



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Getting the Weatherization Message Out

- Program uniquely designed to address needs of low-income households, older homes
- Weatherization provides quality work, it's effective, & it moves families out of poverty
- Health & safety and other non-energy benefits
- Work is done in every county across the State
- HCR has new resources for client education
- Take advantage of State and national partners



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Resources

- www.nyshcr.org – see “Programs,” “DHCR-Managed Programs,” “Weatherization”
- www.waptac.org
- Webinar for Weatherization agencies May 30
- HCR NY Region Safe and Healthy Homes training June 3



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For more information, contact HCR
regional offices – call (518) 474-5700,
(212) 480-6700 or see list on web site

www.nyshcr.org



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