



# WEATHERIZATION IN NEW YORK

**Rick Jost**  
**NYS Homes and Community Renewal**  
**LIFE Regional Meetings**  
**2013**

# WEATHERIZATION HISTORY

- Wx began in 1976, Congress allocated about \$225 million per year in 2000s
- Funded by Department of Energy
- New York receives about 8% of national allocation by formula
- Program is administered in NYS by HCR Office of Housing Preservation
- Funding blended with LIHEAP, which is now primary source of funds (about 83% of total)
- Both LIHEAP and Wx funds invested following DOE Wx rules (10 CFR Parts 440 and 600)

# WEATHERIZATION IN NY

- Delivered by local subgrantees
- Reduces low-income household energy expenses
- Assists both rental and owner-occupied housing
- Strong emphasis on health and safety
- All work done by trained, certified workers
- Saves more than \$600 in energy costs per year, per household, on average
- Leverages millions in other funds each year

# WHY WEATHERIZATION?



- 50% of US expenditures for heating and cooling are wasted due to inefficient housing
- Low-income households struggle with energy costs, often paying more than 15% of income
- Rental owners struggle with high operating costs and turnover in inefficient housing
- NYS has the oldest housing stock in US
- NYS has some of the highest oil and electric costs
- Experienced subgrantee network can coordinate energy work with many other program areas

# WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM RULES

- Subject to Federal program and fiscal rules
- Eligibility: 60% of **state** median
  - Additional eligibility rules for rental housing
- Priority given to HEAP clients, seniors, persons with disabilities and families with kids
- Can only do work determined cost-effective by energy audit, plus limited health and safety work
- Can only install materials listed in Appendix A
- Also subject to Federal and State financial, fair housing, procurement, administrative rules

# PROCESS

- Program administered by non-profits and local governments (“subgrantees”)
- Subgrantee responsible for:
  - Conducting outreach and intake
  - Determining eligibility
  - Energy audit and work specification
  - Bidding and contracting with owner
  - Installing measures and managing construction
  - Quality control/quality assurance
- Energy audit determines work to be done
  - Views house as a system
  - Prioritizes measures by energy savings
  - Identifies energy-related health/safety work

# PROCESS

- Quality assurance requirements
  - Extensive written guidelines – PPM Section 5.0
  - New field guide will be issued soon
  - Frequent inspections of work in progress
  - Each unit inspected following completion
  - All work documented and kept on file
  - HCR monitors all subgrantees, 20% of units
- Health and Safety
  - Lead, IAQ, asbestos, mold, etc. – see PPM 5.08.01
  - Must be **energy-related** if Wx funds used
  - Increased coordination with Healthy Homes Programs

# WEATHERIZATION IN 2013



- Program funding about \$45 million
- 60 subgrantees
- Over 6,200 households will be served
- With the reduction in funding comes the need/opportunities for coordination

# MOVING TO WEATHERIZATION PLUS



- HCR participating in national efforts to reposition the program for the post-ARRA world
- States have lots of capacity but limited funding
- Nationally, movement afoot to improve Wx image
- Four themes in Wx Plus 2015:
  - Communications – getting Wx’s message out
  - Leveraging – to maintain capacity
  - Consistent delivery of quality services
  - Existing and potential new markets
- HCR is also actively engaging the Healthy Homes network to explore additional service opportunities

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Weatherization – contact us at [weatherization@nyshcr.org](mailto:weatherization@nyshcr.org)

or call (518) 474-5700

- Also visit [www.waptac.org](http://www.waptac.org)

[www.aeanyc.org](http://www.aeanyc.org)

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