

# Utah Weatherization Assistance Program

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2010

07/01/2009 – 06/30/2010

## Mission

The Weatherization Assistance Program enables low-income families better manage high energy bills through the installation of permanent energy saving measures. Through Weatherization the impact of high utility costs is reduced, resources are conserved, environmental pollutants are reduced and a greater level of self-sufficiency is realized. Jobs are created and local economies are stimulated through the purchase of local goods and services. After Weatherization many recipients find that they no longer need to apply for many public assistance programs.

## Highlights

The Utah Division of Housing & Community Development administers the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program through eight government and nonprofit agencies located throughout Utah, serving every community. State funding for Weatherization was leveraged with additional utility funds, private donations and federal grants at a ratio of approximately \$1,292 from those sources to every one-dollar from the state. Such matching funds minimize state investment and allow increased services and program flexibility. With the receipt of nearly \$38 million in ARRA funds, the leveraging ratio has nearly tripled and over 125 direct jobs have been created.

During fiscal year 2010, Weatherization services were provided as follows:

4,447 Homes completed	14,264 People served
1,504 Elderly occupied dwelling units	1,521 Homes in progress on 6/30/10
1,432 Disabled occupied dwelling units	1,273 Questar Gas funded projects
251 Native American occupied dwelling units	1,332 Rocky Mountain Power funded projects
1,591 Energy Crisis projects completed	

During 2010 Weatherization participated in a joint project with Group Workcamps Foundation, the Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund and other private organizations to rehabilitate 34 homes on the Utah portion of the Navajo Reservation at the Mexican Water Chapter. Nearly 8,500 volunteer hours were contributed and state funding was leveraged over 8.8:1 with the total project value approaching \$301,810.

Individuals, families, the elderly and the disabled who are no more than 150 percent of the current federal poverty income level are eligible for help from the Weatherization Assistance Program. However, priority is given to the elderly and disabled, households with high-energy consumption, emergency situations, and homes with preschool-age children. Participating households nationally are averaging a savings of nearly 33 percent on energy consumption or approximately \$388 a year in Utah. Average total of all Weatherization costs per home was \$4,965.

Both owner-occupied and rental housing are eligible for Weatherization. However, the goal of the Weatherization program is to help low-income tenants reduce their utility costs without excessive enrichment to the property owner. In most cases, rental property owners are required to provide a minimum of 50 percent funding match for most major measures installed by the program.

In carrying out Weatherization projects, first priority is given to stopping transfer of conditioned air into or out of the dwelling. The second priority is installing a balanced combination of energy-saving home improvements. These include furnace replacements; insulation of attics, walls, floors, foundations, water heaters, pipes, and exposed heating ducts; duct sealing; installation of replacement windows and doors; and providing energy efficient lighting and refrigerator replacements. Only measures with a savings-to-investment ratio of greater than 1.0 can be installed, based on a computerized energy audit of each home.