National Energy & Utility Affordability Conference

Tribal Energy Track

GRAND RONDE TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

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What is weatherization?

Assessing a home to determine current energy usage, finding methods to reduce energy costs through repairs, replacement or conservation measures.

Any or all of the following may be included in a weatherization project:

1. Installing or adding to existing components, such as insulation, weather stripping, compact fluorescent lights, insulating water heater, plug insulators

2. Replacement of components; older furnace with Heat Pump, double pane windows for older single pane or aluminum style, new insulated doors

3. Determining locations of heat loss and moisture intrusion in the process, crawlspace challenges, duct failures, health and safety measures, etc.

4. Replacing inefficient household appliances
Tribal Considerations for starting a Weatherization program

- Tribal Council support
- Department willing to take on the work
- Staff capacity
- Local training and support
- Cooperation with federal agencies, state, counties, cities and other Tribes
- Funding
- Sovereignty considerations
GRTHA has five different programs to offer Tribal members home improvements and repairs:

- Weatherization Program/LIHEAP (ten county service area)
- TEEPEI – Tribal and HUD funded Weatherization and Micro Energy Generation (six counties)
- Home Repair Grants (3 states)
- Medical Adaptation Grants (U.S.)
- Sanitation Program – Indian Health Services service area
Partnership with Community Action Programs is Important!

Low-Income County Weatherization Organizations and the Grand Ronde Tribal staff work together to add extra benefits to Home remodeling projects.
• The Duct Blaster helps find the leaks in furnace ducts

• Studies indicate duct sealing is a very effective energy saving measure
Blower Door Tests
Determine Minimum Ventilation Levels, and location of air leaks

…and where the cold air is originating
Determining priorities can be difficult....
Singlewide Manufactured Home Receives a New Roof
Under the New EPDM Roof is a 4” Solid Core Styrofoam Insulation
GRTHA Home Repair with Weatherization Components

Before

After
Assuring proper insulation is one of the most important parts of a weatherization program!
Accessible Bathroom Adaptations

- Grab Bars and Hand Held Shower Nozzles
- Conversion to Step-in Showers
- Shower Chairs and Handicap Toilets
- Low cost measures if funding limits; shower chairs, toilet adaptors, alternate faucets, tub cuts instead of roll in showers, etc.
GRTHA: Medical Adaptation Example

Before
After
GRTHA: Weatherization Program History

• The Grand Ronde Tribe applied directly to Federal Government for LIHEAP, not as a State sub-recipient

• Six weatherization grants per year based on LIHEAP only funds ($17-18,000, average $3500 per project)

• Added HUD IHBG and Tribal funding in 2009 to serve more Tribal families, and not be constricted by LIHEAP income and funding limitations

• Improvements related to saving energy, primarily insulation, exterior doors, windows, HVAC improvements
TEEPEI

Tribal Energy Efficiency Program through Education and Innovation

• Serving the Grand Ronde Tribal membership in three ways:

  – **Phase One** – Education through Energy Savings Workshops and Energy Saver Kits nationwide

  – **Phase Two** – Saving energy through weatherization (six county area), technical assistance and direct grants to $3,500

  – **Phase Three** – Energy generation projects for single family homes, technical assistance and direct grants to $15,000, match required for maximum grant amounts
- A streamlined application for the Energy Kit & Energy Education Services
- A full application for the Weatherization and Alternative Energy projects
- Match of $5,000 to receive $15K funding
Every Tribe can do Weatherization!

- **Benefits include**
  - Lower energy bills for low-income families
  - Opportunities to replace old appliances
  - Safer homes for Tribal members with health conditions
  - Job training and economic development
  - Self sufficiency and education for families
  - More cost efficient Tribal housing projects
What will the future bring?

Anything’s possible....
Thank you for your attention!