



December 22, 2011

Dear Governor and Members of the General Assembly:

The Urban Weatherization Initiative (UWI) Act (30 ILCS 738/40-40) requires the Office of Urban Assistance to administer a weatherization assistance program designed to increase employment opportunities for low income individuals and provide energy assistance for low income households. Weatherization Assistance Program targets populations in eligible grant areas in Illinois (Rockford, East Saint Louis, Chicago, Peoria and Kankakee) and report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the activities undertaken by the Department and its grantees.

SUMMARY

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Urban Assistance is responsible for implementing the UWI in FY 11. The Initiative seeks to increase employment and entrepreneurship opportunities through the installation and manufacturing of low-cost weatherization materials. UWI measures will improve efficiency in homes, reduce energy bills, address health and safety concerns, create and sustain jobs, and support local businesses in the targeted communities.

The UWI is administered by DCEO with a 5 member Advisory Board – Weatherization Initiative Board members and 4 ex-officio members from the General Assembly. The Board currently has two open voting positions and one open ex-officio member. The Board members are as follows:

VOTING

Percy Harris, Chair
Deborah Harrington
Melissa Williams

EX-OFFICIO

Rep. Ken Dunkin
Sen. Donne Trotter
Rep. Dave Winters

PROGRAM MODEL

The program model focuses on job creation efforts to advance new economic opportunities in Illinois by employing men and women from low income communities to provide weatherization services within those communities. This program will promote an environment with an improved alignment of resources to respond to the talent development needs of businesses and job seekers in the Weatherization Industry. Eligible applicants in the training component will be trained to conduct home energy audits and provide weatherization specialist services, allowing the State's local communities an opportunity to provide market-relevant training and education, ensuring a strategic path to employment and career advancement opportunities.

The program will also stimulate local economies by utilizing local suppliers, distributors and/or manufacturers of equipment and supplies necessary for weatherization work. Targeted buildings are owner-occupied, single family homes, and multifamily dwellings of 6 units or less in census tracts with high rates of unemployment, underemployment and poverty.



Weatherization activities include:

- Repair / replacement of inefficient heating or cooling units
- Addressing air infiltration issues (i.e. weather stripping, caulking, window/door replacement)
- Repair / replacement of water heaters
- Pipe duct installation / insulation

The UWI provides for the disbursement of grants totaling no more that \$500,000 to public or private entities who partner with local community-based organizations to provide job training in the field of weatherization.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The FY 11 program year awarded two grants. A competitive selection process was conducted. All applicants were evaluated on their curriculum; grants management experience; partnerships; fiscal sustainability; and the cost effectiveness of the proposed program.

Grants

Award Amount

Home Energy Auditor Training (Six Grantees):	\$3,398,444
Weatherization Specialist Training (Ten Grantees):	\$1,600,000

In calendar year 2012, the first order of business is to complete, award and execute the Request for Proposal for completion of homes in the targeted communities. It is anticipated that the grant will be awarded as the spring construction season begins and be fully implemented by spring 2013.

The UWI grantees to date are in compliance with program and fiscal goals, adhering to program guidelines, and the infrastructure for grant monitoring has been restructured to provide a detailed road map for success to the grantees.



FY 11 GRANTEES - HOME ENERGY AUDITORS TRAINING

Organization Name	Address
Opportunity Advancement Innovation (OAI, Inc.)	180 N. Wabash Chicago, IL 60601
City of Rockford	612 North Church Street Rockford, IL 61103
Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA)	901 W. Jackson Blvd, STE 205 Chicago, IL 60607
Albany Park Community Center, Inc.	3403 W. Lawrence Ave, STE 300 Chicago, IL 60625
Local Economic & Employment Development Council, Inc. (LEED Council, Inc.)	1866 N. Marcey St. Chicago, IL 60614
Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC)	2500 Carlyle Ave. Belleville, IL 62221

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FY-11 GRANTEES

of individuals trained: **TBD**

of individuals obtaining BPI Certification: **TBD**

of individuals placed in to conduct Home Energy Audits: **TBD**



FY 11 GRANTEES - WEATHERIZATION SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAM

Organization Name	Address
Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity Inc. (PCCEO)	711 W. McBean St. Peoria, IL. 61605
Emerson Park Development Corporation	1405 State Street East Saint Louis, IL 62205
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois (HCI)	1350 E. Sibley Blvd Dolton, IL 60419
Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC)	2500 Carlyle Ave Belleville, IL 62221
North Lawndale Employment Network	3726 W. Flournoy Chicago, IL 60624
Proviso-Leyden Council for Community Action Inc. (PLCCA)	411 West Madison, P.O. Box 950 Maywood, IL 60153
Genesis Housing Development Corporation	7735 S. Vernon Chicago, IL 60619
Pembroke Hopkins Park Construction Outreach Program	2598 S. 14000 E. Road Pembroke, Township, IL 60958
The Black Star Project	3509 S. King Drive Chicago, IL 60653
Illinois YouthBuild Coalition, Inc.	917 South Main St. Rockford, IL 61101

PERFORMANCE MEASURES FY 11 GRANTEES

of individuals trained: **TBD**

of individuals certified: **TBD**

of individuals hired in industry: **TBD**



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

Pat Quinn, Governor • Warren Ribley, Director

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity - Office of Urban Assistance is strongly committed to the successful implementation of the Urban Weatherization Initiative. Our goal is make the Urban Weatherization Initiative a model weatherization program serving the targeted communities as directed by the UWI Board. We are committed to Job Training and Creation and Job Retention as we address communities in our great state. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Warren Ribley
Director

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