

# An Arkansas Weatherization Overview

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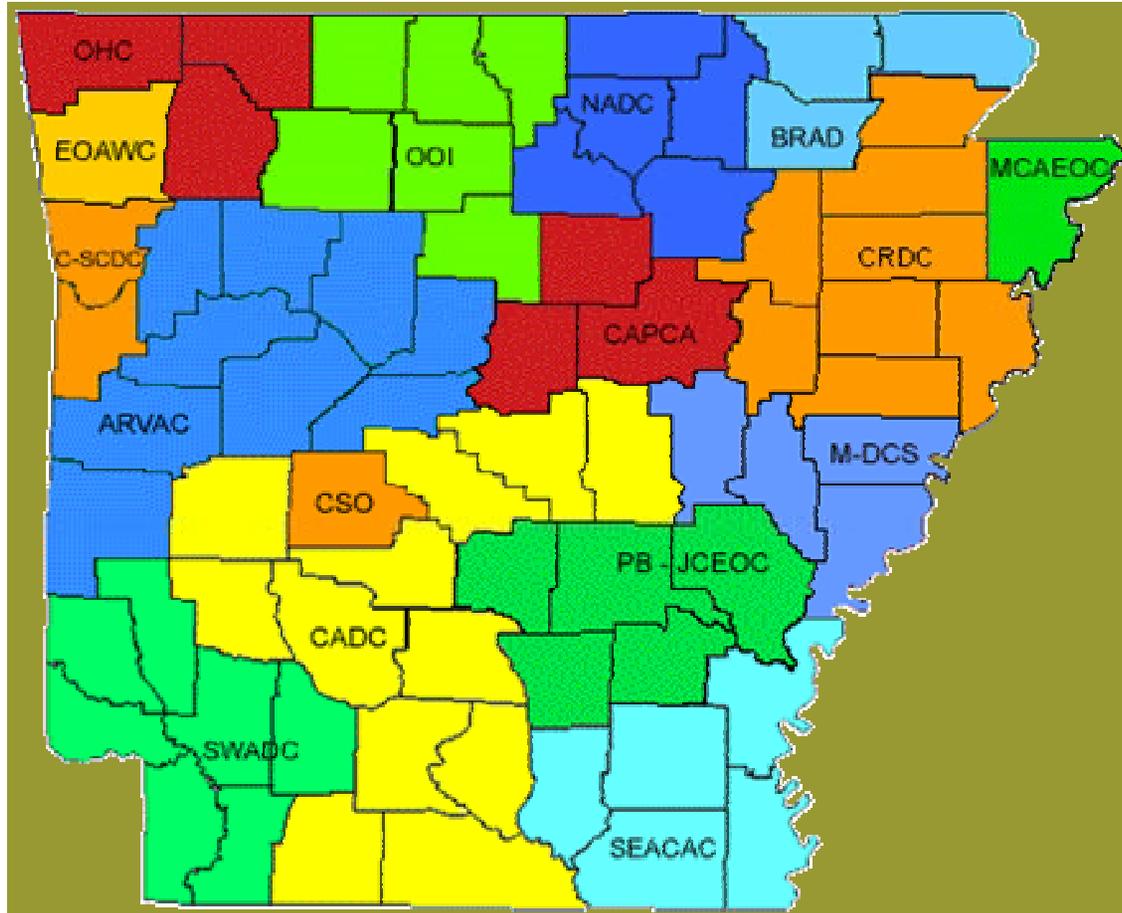
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# Community Action in Arkansas



*Helping People... Changing Lives!*

# “Weatherization Works!” in Arkansas

- More than 1100 homes were weatherized in 2005 through the U.S. Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).
- Income eligibility for the federal WAP is up to 125% of the federal poverty guideline.
- The waiting list for the federally funded WAP in Arkansas is more than 2300 due to funding limitations.

(Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services Office of Community Services; 2005)

# [ 30 Years of Results ]

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Since 1976, the DOE Weatherization Assistance Program in Arkansas has:

- Weatherized 61,000 homes, resulting in significant energy savings
- Injected more than \$91 million into communities throughout the state

## According to the U.S. Department of Energy

The cost-benefit ratio of energy reduction is \$1.83 for each dollar of DOE investment. When the energy- and non-energy-related benefits are added together, the DOE Weatherization Assistance Program returns \$3.71 for every dollar invested by DOE.

(Source: Oak Ridge National Laboratory; January 2003)

[http://www.eere.energy.gov/weatherization/ne\\_benefits.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/weatherization/ne_benefits.html)



# Inspection/NEAT Audit

- Uses computerized energy audits and advanced diagnostic technology to determine the energy-efficiency needs of a home and cost-effective measures to address inefficiencies
- Many, however, are so substandard that the investment would not bring them up to current standards, creating “*walk-aways.*”

## Examples of Energy-Efficiency Measures

- Weather-strip doors and windows
- Caulk and seal cracks
- Insulate attics, walls, and floors
- Replace broken windows
- Install storm windows
- Seal leaking air ducts

## Examples of Energy-Efficiency Measures

- Install energy-saving light bulbs
- Repair and retrofit furnaces
- Replace inefficient refrigerators and water heaters

# Other Measures

- Weatherization Kits
- Installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Consumer education

# Contractors

- Must comply with standard bid and/or procurement processes
- Must meet standards required by DHHS OCS
- Must have appropriate insurance coverage
- Must be certified in “Lead-Safe Work Practices” (HUD 3R Course)
- Work monitored for quality assurance

# [ Monitoring and Accountability ]

- Agencies monitored by Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services Office of Community Services
  - Three monitoring visits per year
  - Inspects at least 15% of units weatherized
  - Reviews at least 10% of customer files
  - Uses standards in DOE Southeast Weatherization Field Guide
  - Corrective actions must be taken if a problem is found

# [ Monitoring and Accountability ]

- In addition to quality assurance, monitors also assess compliance with contract terms and conditions and with financial regulations
- Each community action agency is required to have an annual independent audit conducted to meet federal standards for financial accountability and compliance

# Weatherization Network Training

- Annual state DHHS OCS training
- Regional DOE training
- National association training for weatherization providers
- Specialized training as needed

# [ Notable Quotes ]

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Governor Mike Huckabee praises the program for “its proven effectiveness and recognized potential to do more for the common good...It is in the best interest of our government and others in the public and private sectors to work together to support and strengthen [weatherization], which has done so much for so many in our state...”

(2006 Weatherization Day Proclamation)

# [ Notable Quotes ]

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Congressman Vic Snyder said, “It really demonstrated to me how critically important these issues of weatherization, energy efficiency, the ability to keep places both cool and warm, can be, not just for comfort, but for health.”

(Weatherization Day event 2004)

# National Recognition of Weatherization in Arkansas

- Gave presentations at national conferences by invitation
- Prominently featured in DOE Weatherization Site Visit Demonstration Kit
- Recognized as national leader in promotion of annual Weatherization Day