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For Immediate Release

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NASCSP Joins BPI's Green Jobs Connection Initiative Connecting Weatherization Workers to Jobs in Home Performance Contracting

Malta, NY January 6, 2012: Today the Building Performance Institute, Inc. (BPI) and the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP) announced a partnership to promote BPI's Green Jobs Connection, an initiative that will connect BPI certified workers now employed in the federal Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) to jobs within BPI's network of private home performance contractors.

"The Weatherization program has a vast talent pool of BPI certified energy auditors, home energy retrofit installers, crew chiefs, and others. BPI's network of private accredited contracting companies and other industry partners is growing fast. These firms depend on highly skilled professionals to make sure energy efficiency improvements are done right – the first time. Creating an online space where these two groups can find one another easily is a natural step for us," said Larry Zarker, BPI CEO.

All BPI certified professionals are invited to post their resumes on BPI's [Green Jobs Connection](http://www.bpi.org/greencollar.aspx) website (www.bpi.org/greencollar.aspx), where they can browse jobs by category. The Green Jobs Connection invites any contractor or organization seeking to hire BPI certified professionals to post their job vacancies. The site is organized by category, featuring [Jobs With Accredited Contracting Companies](#), [Companies Seeking Certified Professionals](#), [Jobs with Industry Partners](#), and [Jobs with BPI](#).

BPI will actively promote the site to the broader home performance industry to maximize the networking possibilities for weatherization workers and contracting companies. NASCSPP will inform and connect its network of State WAP agencies and their local agencies' workers and contractors to the Green Jobs Connection's interface, and will reach out to state and federal partners to disseminate the information.

Tim Warfield, Executive Director of NASCSPP, which represents the state administrators of the Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) and the WAP said, "The National Association for State Community Services Programs is fully supportive of this project and hopes to foster growth in the energy efficiency retrofit industry with the highly trained WAP workforce. Our nationwide network of state and territorial WAP agencies has met the challenge of the Recovery Act and now, in the face of budget cuts, must expand into new areas. The Green Jobs Connection will provide a crucial link to provide partnerships with private entrepreneurs, state and local agencies, and workers in both the energy efficiency and healthy homes arenas.

The Green Jobs Connection Partnership was launched on October 26th, 2011 together with the National Community Action Foundation (NCAF).

Background Fact Sheet

BPI's certification exams are delivered nationally through a network of over 300 experienced providers that includes 17 WAP training centers. These centers provide services based on the WAP Core Competencies and meet the standards for quality training required by the program. BPI works closely with NASCSP and other organizations to promote worker competency and exams based on the fundamental core competencies inherent in the National Weatherization Training Platform (NWTP).

About the Recovery Act Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 provided \$5 billion in additional funding to WAP over three years to expedite the weatherization of hundreds of thousands of low-income households. The program currently employs more than 14,000 workers across the country, and has surpassed its national goal of weatherizing 600,000 homes. The program enables low-income families to reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient.

About the Building Performance Institute

The [Building Performance Institute, Inc., \(BPI\)](#) is the nation's premier building performance credentialing, quality assurance and standards setting organization. BPI develops technical standards using an open, transparent, consensus-based process built on sound building science. BPI is approved by the American National Standards Institute, Inc. (ANSI) as an accredited developer of American National Standards.

BPI offers the following:

- National standards to ensure top quality, consistent protocols are being followed throughout the home performance and weatherization workforce
- Certification of individuals in building analyst, heating, AC/heat pump, shell/envelope and multi-family designations
- Accreditation of contracting companies committed to delivering quality home performance improvements
- Quality assurance to verify conformance with BPI Standards and provide feedback for continuing improvement
- Partnership of testing organizations that deliver BPI services in their market

About National Association for State Community Services Programs

The National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP) is a membership organization comprised of State Managers of the Weatherization Assistance Program and the Community Services Block Grant. NASCSPP is the premier national association charged with advocating and enhancing the leadership role of states in preventing and reducing poverty. NASCSPP's vision encompasses the empowerment of low-income families to reach self-sufficiency in its broadest context, through helping states attain full utilization of their resources and implement an extensive array of services to these families, including weatherization, the Healthy Homes/Weatherization Plus Health initiative, energy assistance, child care, nutrition, employment, state energy programs, job training, and housing in urban, suburban and rural communities.

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