

Round Table Discussion Notes – Weatherization Plus Health/Healthy Homes

What are grantees currently doing?

- Salt Lake Community Action program
- Vermont – Typically follow DOE rules. Implemented efficiency coaching. Talk with the client about energy conservation. Refer the client to other programs. Use an electronic tool to a partner for other services to help the client. Do a lot of health and safety stuff. Training – building science skills. Is there a training plan? There is a process flow. There are five subgrantees and 5 coaches.
 - Vermont - Vermiculite – 10% of homes which is an automatic deferral
- Any states have other supplemental funds? North Dakota found some extra funds for H&S, healthy homes.
- Kara – Nebraska – funding from the state Radon program – CDBG funds from local communities/cities. Suggest to go after non-traditional funding sources.
- New Hampshire – One subgrantee has a good healthy homes program. Big concern is the resistance to allow people in their homes.
- Georgia – Having issues with vapor barriers – having trouble with installing vapor barrier; leads to deferral.
- Healthy Homes Certification – BPI provides a course. CHP provides the training.
- What is the driving force for healthy homes? Kara-HUD
- Kansas-Scott – Childrens Mercy Hospital – Healthy homes principles – keep it safe, moisture, roaches. There was a 2-day training course. Do research with HUD to find programs with healthy homes.

Anyone using more than 15% for Health & Safety?

- A couple of states went through an extra review by DOE. 20% was approved. Missouri – has a lot of unvented heaters. Missouri receives funding from Utilities and LIHEAP and the funds are spent like DOE rules.
- W. Virginia got out of healthy homes because it fizzled out.
- AK has had discussions on creating an healthy homes initiative with hospitals, Dept. of Health but nothing is really solidified. With hospitals providing the care – they thought DHHS would be ideal to develop the initiative. Has worked with rural development office to assist with things like pulling

carpet, drapes, etc. that cause asthma related issues. The issue with the funding is that their application process is lengthy and served as a difficulty. Although many of subgrantees already had a relationship with Rural Development so they were not discouraged with the paperwork.

- Some subgrantees have taken their own initiative to find grants to add to WAP.
- WA has \$5M funding outside of the WAP to spend on H&S. They have found subgrantees that have health clinic associated with them. Some areas more successful than others. With WAP we tell agencies what they have to do but with this funding they left it open to allow for other measures and determine best material. WA doesn't really have a mandate in legislation to do Healthy homes and certain measures, they can use it for Healthy Homes measures or emergency repairs. Has broad use.
- WV – no problem going over. Some states at 20%. DOE has allowed increases if states needed additional funding if justification is available. Must demonstrate need. WV had 59% in H&S with LIHEAP last year. This year they are finishing in 30%.
- One state moved ASHRAE from H&S to Incidental Repairs- they plan to submit in DOE state plan for approval.
- There are different funds that assist with different things. How can you help one house with all funding such as WAP, Health funding, CDBG funding... etc.
- KY tried to bringing everyone to the table because waiting lists, priority points for each program, etc.
- VA has had more success with multi unit leveraging and connecting programs. Single family used to work well with adding additional priority points for leveraged funds but DOE is requiring the identified priority points which causes inefficiencies.
- WV still uses their own priority points and DOE – they have monitoring this Fall. Everyone warned them they probably wouldn't after the DOE visit.
- AK worked into their plan a way of moving people up for “leveraging” that allows them to move people ahead that is not associate with points.

What are you doing with deferrals?

- Washington State – Legislature provided \$5 million for Healthy Homes (in addition to \$10 million general fund allocation for weatherization)
 - Two programs being implemented – “Basic” and “Enhanced”
- Requesting HUD funding for program evaluation
- Suggestion to have presentation from Energy Out West at a future NASCSP highlighting innovation in Weatherization

- Iowa – no Healthy Homes funding. Grant announcements and more information about eligibility would be helpful. Referrals to lead, radon, etc. have not been successful. These programs primarily provide education and not measures.
- Interest in addressing H&S issues with Healthy Homes via weatherization. States need information on how to obtain funding or collaborate with agencies that have funding
- Medicaid – has anyone tried to use this as a funding?
- Washington is attempting to evaluate effectiveness of working with Medicaid patients with the hope of eventually obtaining funding from medical community
- Agencies need training on how to utilize the H&S audit tool.
- Addressing H&S issues can have a detrimental effect on weatherization production. Can be a barrier to implementation. Connecticut is using the One Touch program which has been helpful, but in general feels more tools are needed to make this a successful partnership. The tools should be designed to reduce duplication (e.g. multiple inspections).
- Wisconsin has been successful in combining CDBG, HOME, USDA and other funds to address weatherization deferrals but has not specialized/targeted this funding as Healthy Homes. Our goal has been to get buildings into weatherization production and address the reason for deferral, which sometimes may overlap with Healthy Homes but not sure.
- Minnesota – ASHRAE 62.2 increasing H&S costs. Is this an opportunity for Healthy Homes? Bigger question is what is DOE's goal for weatherization? It seems there is a shift from energy savings to health and safety.
- Nebraska has had success with referrals to Healthy Homes in Omaha, but challenges in other areas of state.