

Success Stories

Washington State Low-Income Weatherization Program

Profile

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic

A family requested weatherization services. Upon arriving at the home, the weatherization auditor discovered that the family was heating the house with a propane camp stove.

According to the home owner, the family had always been heated with baseboard heat, but several of the units had recently stopped functioning. Therefore, they had no way to heat other than with the propane camp stove. Their solution to the home heating problem was not only inadequate but highly dangerous.

In coordination with the LIHEAP - Other Emergency Services (OES), we were able to have wall heaters installed to replace the broken baseboard heat. We then weatherized the home, and the home owner was thrilled with having a comfortable and

safe home after our work was completed.

In another instance a client came to us requesting weatherization assistance. Her home was very leaky and cold and both her refrigerator and hot water heater were energy hogs. The inefficient appliances coupled with the loss of heat as a result of her drafty home made her home very expensive to heat.

In response to rising costs, she stopped turning on her heat to save money. She explained to us that she had recently been diagnosed with brain cancer and the cold house was exacerbating her condition, however, she simply could not afford to heat the house.

Our auditor went to the home only to discover that sometime between the last time the furnace was turned on and then, it had stopped working. Even though we could insulate, she now had no heating source.

We immediately arranged for LIHEAP OES to repair her

furnace and subsequently, insulated her home and replaced her old appliances with new energy efficient ones. She was so very appreciative of her now energy efficient home. She doesn't have to deal with a cold unhealthy home for herself and her children and is more able to concentrate on getting well.

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