home**energy**+

ANNUAL REPORT

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Wisconsin Public Benefits Home Energy Plus Programs
JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

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Participating Utilities

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative Algoma Utilities Alliant Energy Arcadia, City of Argyle Municipal Utilities **Bangor Municipal Utility Barron Electric Cooperative** Barron Light & Water Utility Belmont Municipal Light and Water Utility **Benton Municipal Utilities Black Earth Utilities** Black River Falls Municipal Electric & Water **Bloomer Electric Utility Boscobel Utilities** Brodhead Water and Light Commission Cadott Light and Water Department Cashton Municipal Light and Water Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative **Clark Electric Cooperative Clintonville Utilities** Columbus Water & Light **Consolidated Water Power Company Cornell Municipal Electric Utility** Cuba City Electric & Water Utility **Cumberland Municipal Electric Utility** Dahlberg Light & Power Company East **Dunn Energy Cooperative Central Energy Cooperative** Eau Claire Electric Cooperative Elkhorn, City of Elroy, City of Evansville Water & Light Fennimore Water & Light Florence Utilities **Gresham Water & Electric Utility** Hustisford Utilities Jackson Electric Cooperative Jefferson Utilities Jump River Electric Cooperative Juneau Utilities Kaukauna Utilities La Farge Municipal Utilities Lake Mills Light & Water Madison Gas & Electric Manitowoc Public Utilities Marshfield Electric and Water Department Medford Electric Utility Menasha Electric & Water Utilities

Merrillan, Village of Muscoda Utilities New Glarus Utilities New Holstein Utilities New Lisbon Municipal Electric & Water Department New London Utilities New Richmond Utilities North Central Power Company, Inc. Northwestern Wisconsin Electric Company **Oakdale Electric Cooperative** Oconto Electric Cooperative Oconto Falls Water and Light Commission Pardeeville Public Utilities Pioneer Power & Light Company Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative Prairie du Sac, Village of Price Electric Cooperative Princeton Municipal Utility **Reedsburg Utility Commission Rice Lake Utilities Richland Center Electric Utility Richland Electric Cooperative Rock Energy Cooperative** Scenic Rivers Electric Cooperative Shawano Municipal Utilities Shullsburg Electric Utility Spooner Municipal Utilities Stoughton Utilities Stratford Water and Electric Utility Sturgeon Bay Utilities Sun Prairie Utilities Superior Water Light & Power Company **Taylor Electric Cooperative** Trempealeau, Village of Two Rivers, City of Vernon Electric Cooperative Village of Mazomanie Viola Municipal Utility Waterloo Utilities Waupun Utilities We Energies Westby Electric Utility Westfield Electric Whitehall Electric Utility Wisconsin Public Service Corporation Wisconsin Rapids Waterworks and Lighting Wonewoc Municipal Water and Light Department **Xcel Energy**

The Low Income Public Benefits Program

Wisconsin's Public Benefits Program was created by the Wisconsin State Legislature in 1999 as part of the Reliability 2000 Initiative. In fiscal year 2022, the Low-Income Public Benefits Program was administered by the Department of Administration's Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources.

The Low-Income Public Benefits Fund is funded by electric and natural gas utility ratepayers. Wisconsin's investor-owned utilities are required by law to participate. Municipal electric utilities and electric cooperatives have the option of participating in the state program or operating their own "Commitment to Community" programs. Revenue for the Low-Income Public Benefits Fund comes from three sources:

- 1. Funds from investor-owned utilities collected through rates established by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, which include fees added to electric bills participating utilities collected and remitted to the state.
- 2. Funds contributed by participating municipal electric utilities and cooperatives.
- 3. Voluntary donations.

Households with income at or below 60 percent of Wisconsin's State Median Income (SMI) may be eligible for the Home Energy Plus (HE+) Programs.

In fiscal year 2022, 249,232 households applied for energy assistance. The Low-Income Public Benefits Fund through Home Energy Plus provided assistance to 197,478 households with limited incomes throughout Wisconsin. The ultimate goal of all low-income energy programs is to make the households' energy self-sufficient—that is, to provide services that help households meet energy costs on an ongoing basis without sacrificing other necessities. The programs are delivered to eligible households through county health and human service agencies,





community-action agencies, tribal governments, and other nonprofit organizations.

Home Energy Plus Programs receive significant financial contributions from the federal government through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) block grant and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). As a result of 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, these programs also receive state Public Benefits funding. Public Benefits funding was continued under 2005 Wisconsin Act 141. The Public Benefits Fund has allowed the state to increase the number of households that receive energy conservation and weatherization services, and to increase electric and emergency benefit payments. By integrating these funds with the federal LIHEAP and WAP, Wisconsin has developed a comprehensive assistance program that addresses "whole-house" energy needs.

Public Benefits Programs 2022 Financial Highlights
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

REVENUES

REVENUES			
Home Energy Plus	\$104,339,663		
Public Service Commission:			
Administration Revenue	\$ -		
Reverse Prior Year Prepaid Revenue			
Lapse to General Fund			
Total Funding	¢101 729 162		
Total Funding\$104,738,463			
EXPENSES			
Home Energy Plus	¢100 004 000		
Public Service Commission			
	· · · ·		
Agency 437 (DCF TANF).			
Total Expenses	\$110,452,131		
BALANCES			
Beginning Fund Balance	\$24,011,597		
Current Year Revenues	\$104,738,463		
Current Year Expense	\$110,452,131		
Total Fund Balance			
Fund Balance			
Less:			
Weatherization Commitments	(\$3,176,644)		
WHEAP Commitments			
Agency 155 Expense (PSC) Commitment	S\$132		
Plus:			
Accounts Receivable of FY19 Fees	. , ,		
Uncommitted Fund Balance*	\$26,475,065		
*A detailed financial report is available upon request			

Program Highlights

Electric Bill Assistance

Electric assistance is a one-time, annual payment intended to pay a portion of a household's electricity costs. The amount of the benefit is dependent on the household's income, size of the household, and electric costs incurred by the household. The energy used by electric appliances in a home is referred to as baseload energy use. Typically, baseload energy encompasses lighting, refrigeration, laundry appliances, and electronics. Water heating and cooking may also be considered baseload energy.

Crisis Assistance

Crisis assistance is available to eligible households that were subject to disconnection of their utility service, or a fuel emergency. Crisis assistance is provided through both emergency services and preventive services. During the heating season (October 1 through May 15), emergency services helps customers by purchasing heating fuel (LIHEAP), supplying a warm place to stay, and/or providing for emergency heating system repair or replacement. Preventive services helped residents avoid future emergencies by establishing co-payment plans between the customer, energy provider, and WHEAP agency. Training and information on how to reduce energy costs, budget counseling and money management, or taking other needs-based actions helped residents more effectively manage their energy bills.

Heating Bill Assistance

Heating assistance is a one-time, annual payment intended to pay a portion of a household's heating costs. The amount of the benefit is dependent on household income, size of the household, and heating costs incurred by the household. The benefit covers a percentage of a recipient's household annual heating bill.¹ In most cases, the heating assistance benefit is applied directly to the household's bill with the energy provider. Heating assistance is funded through the LIHEAP federal funds.

 $^{\rm 1}$ In FY22, heating assistance paid on average 31% of an annual heating bill.

Home Energy Plus Statistics: Fiscal Year 2022

ELECTRIC ASSISTANCE (Public Benefits)

- Provided assistance to 201,853 households; Public Benefits provided assistance to 197,478 of these households
- Average Public Benefits payment: \$195

CRISIS ASSISTANCE (Public Benefits)

- Provided assistance to 7,564 households
- Average payment: \$528

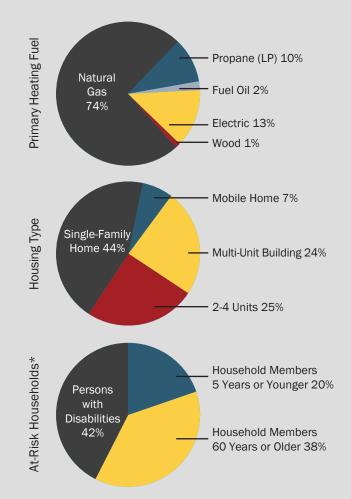
HEATING BILL ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP)

- Provided assistance to 136,096 households
- Average payment: \$432
- ARPA LIHEAP provided assistance to 58,610 of these households*
- Average ARPA LIHEAP payment: \$386

CRISIS ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP)

- Provided LIHEAP assistance to 15,065 households
- Average payment: \$860
- Provided ARPA LIHEAP crisis assistance to households 15,080*
- Average ARPA LIHEAP crisis payment \$613
- Provided CARES LIHEAP crisis assistance to households 14*
- Average CARES LIHEAP crisis payment \$513

 $\star {\rm COVID}$ Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding



*Some households may be counted more than once when there is more than one household member in an at-risk category.

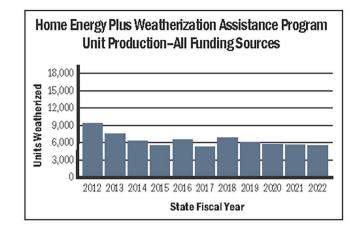
Weatherization Services

The Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Low-Income Weatherization Program helped reduce home energy costs for 5,177 households by reducing home energy consumption. Households participating in the program can save \$390¹ each year on average.² As a result of participation in the program, customers' homes are more energy efficient and more comfortable—warmer in the winter, and cooler in the summer.

Weatherization Services and the Economy

The Weatherization Program offers services in all 72 Wisconsin counties through a network of 18 local agencies. Utilities, energy assistance providers, and trade contractors are important partners in the successful delivery of weatherization services.

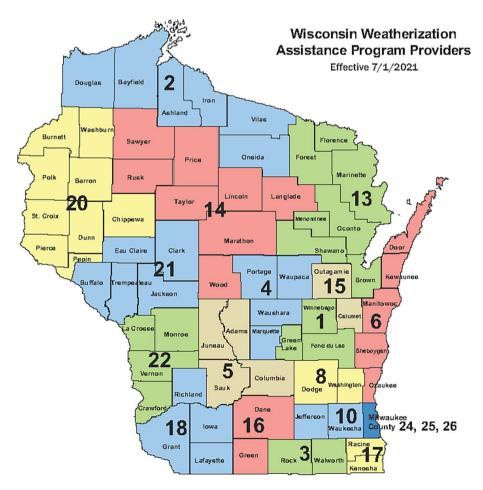
Weatherization benefits of energy efficiency and the corresponding "green jobs" are the seeds of economic recovery, job growth, and infrastructure development—all of which are at the core of the Home Energy Plus Programs. The weatherization and other downstream weatherization-related jobs continue to assist in employing Wisconsin laborers.



"With the help from you we'll be able to have a warmer house and be more comfortable and less stressed."

- Recipient of Home Energy Plus Assistance

¹ Assessment of Energy and Cost Savings for Homes Treated under Wisconsin's Home Energy Plus Weatherization Program, 2022 ² 1 to 4 unit buildings, all fuels



Weatherization Providers		
1	ADVOCAP	
2	Ashland County Housing Authority	
3	Community Action of Rock/Walworth	
4	CAP Services, Inc.	
5	Central Wisconsin CAC	
6	Partners for Community Development	
8	Hartford CDA	
10	La Casa de Esperanza	
13	Newcap, Inc.	
14	North Central CAP, Inc.	
15	Outagamie CHA	
16	Project Home, Inc.	
17	Racine/ Kenosha CAA	
18	Southwestern Wisconsin CAP	
20	West Central Wisconsin CAP	
21	Westem Dairyland	
22	Couleecap, Inc.	
24	La Casa de Esperanza	
25	Social Development Commission	
26	Partners for Community Development	









Home Energy Plus is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources through a network of county agencies, tribal governments, community-based organizations and utilities. The Home Energy Plus (HE+) Program consists of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP), which provides heating and electric assistance to eligible households, the HE+ Furnace Program, which provides replacement or repair of furnaces, and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), which offers energy efficiency improvements to help eligible customers save energy and money.





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