# Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.'s Energy Washington Program Program



Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. Jolene John, Community Development Manager (907) 865-7358, jjohn@ruralcap.com



#### **GOALS**

- Reduce residential energy consumption
  - Behavior change
  - Low-cost home upgrades
- Create jobs for rural Alaskans
  - Hire and train locally
  - Professional development and certification

#### **EFFECTIVE BEHAVIOR CHANGE**

- Message Delivered by Local Crews
  - 4- 10 hired per community, 6-12 weeks
  - Professional training and certification
- Energy Fair
  - Engages entire community
  - Residents sign-up for home assessment
- Home Visits Energy Assessments
  - 2 crew members, 1 full day (8 hours) per home
  - Residential survey
  - Residents participate in finding where energy is used and how to save
  - Review energy bills and potential savings
  - \$300 of energy efficiency supplies installed
- Follow-Up Education and Survey
  - 3 to 6 months after home assessment

#### **COMPLEMENTS WEATHERIZATION**

- Focus on education and behavior change
- Project engages entire community
- Prioritize communities not recently served or to be served by Weatherization
- All homes eligible

### 2010 RESULTS SHOW SUSTAINED CHANGE

- 86% reported they were still practicing energy efficiency and conservation measures
- 80% reported decreased electric bills
- 82% reported decreased home heating costs

#### Before Energy Wise:

- \$186 = 287 kWh/month
  - \$63 is paid by resident (\$0.218)
  - \$123 is covered by PCE (\$0.427)

#### After Energy Wise:

- 90 kWh/month reduction
- \$127 = 195 kWh/month
  - \$43 paid by resident (\$20 savings)
  - \$84 is covered by PCE (\$39 savings)

#### **SUMMARY OF PROGRAM OUTCOME**

- Leverage additional funding when feasible
- Identify, purchase, ship supplies
- Update training materials and coordinate training logistics
- Hire Crew Leaders in partnership with local community
- Host Professional Certification Training and Crew Leader Training
- Host educational Energy Fairs
- Hire Crew Members in partnership with Crew Leader and community
- Host on-site Launch Week in each village and provide hands-on training to all Crew Members





### **Energy Wise Crews - Preparing for Future Employment:**

-Energy Development-Weatherization-Construction Fields

Through DTF Grant, all crews receive training and certification in:

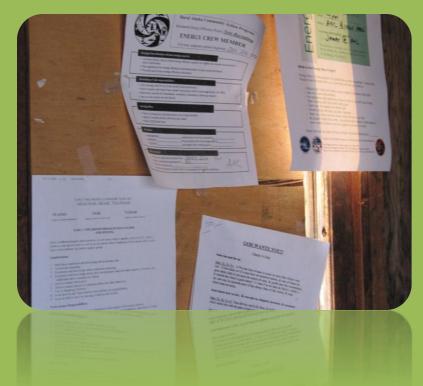
- Weatherization Tech 1
  - General building science
  - Weatherization basics
  - Hands-on installation experience
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10
  - Construction safety standards
- First Aid

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

- Community contact
  - Local council and existing local resources contacted
  - Memorandums of agreement completed
  - Updated timeline reviewed with all sites
- Site visits conducted to each village (spring/summer)
  - Relationship building
  - Meet with local contacts to review plans
  - Visit with residents/homes to confirm supplies needed
- Work together to recruit and hire Crew Leaders and Crew Members
- Crew Leaders engage community members through Energy Fairs
- Host on-site Launch Weeks with support from local community. Hire and train Crew Members.



## CREW LEADER HIRING & TRAINING



- One Crew Leader hired from each site
  - 4 day Crew Leader Training takes place in the Hub Community within the region
  - Central training allows all Crew Leaders to meet their peers and build a network of support

## CREW MEMBER HIRING & TRAINING



4-10 Crew Members hired in each village and trained on site

#### **Launch Weeks:**

- Typically occurs in October/November
- Each community receives 4 days of localized training
- A RurAL CAP Project Coordinator works with Crew on how to conduct home visits
- One or two sites launched weekly



#### **SUPPLIES AND SHIPPING**

- Supply lists reviewed and updated to match community needs
- Bids received from vendors and reviewed
- Supplies received at the RurAL CAP offices, inventoried and consolidated (to reduce packaging waste) and received in villages on time
- Regional Partner's logo has been added to crew sweatshirts and hats, and materials installed in homes

## \$300 in Supplies for Home Upgrades



- Window insulation film
- Compact fluorescent lights
- Silicone and foam spray
- Weather stripping
- Jamb-up door kit and door sweep
- Foam tape and mounting tape
- Pipe insulation
- Faucet aerators, soap-up valve and low-flow shower heads
- Power strips with surge protectors
- Hygrometers
- Refrigerator thermometer and coil cleaners
- Outlet and light switch insulators, plug protectors
- Water heater blanket
- Fire alarm, extinguisher, and carbon monoxide detector



#### IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

- On average, 500 Home Visits completed by January 31
- Homes receive:
  - Full day home visit from crew
  - Education on energy conservation and efficiency
  - Energy use assessment, appliance testing, energy bill review
  - Installation of \$300 worth of supplies
- Crews aim for 100% participation of all homes



**Reviewing Energy Bills** 



Cleaning Fridge and Freezer Coils



**Testing Appliances** 



**Replacing Incandescents with CFLs** 



Installing door sweep and weather-stripping



Applying window film

Installing water heater blankets and teaching maintenance

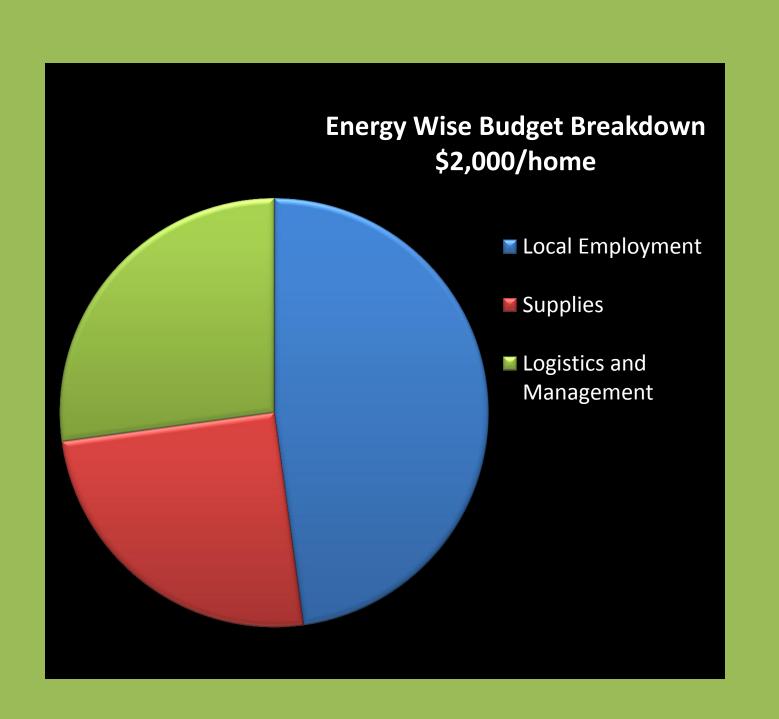




Insulating outlets and switches



Crews Show Residents How to Save Energy and Money



### EXAMPLE OF A REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP SCHEDULE NANA – ENERGY WISE PARTNERSHIP

2011

- Buckland
- Noatak
- Shungnak
- Ambler
- Noorvik
- Kivalina

**Three Year Plan** 

2012

- Deering
- Kiana
- Kobuk
- Selawik
- Kotzebue (186)

2013

• Kotzebue (700+)

Total: 589 homes Total: 492 homes Total: 700+ homes

### NANA – ENERGY WISE PARTNERSHIP 2012-13 Outcomes:

- 5 communities served Deering, Kiana, Kobuk, Kotzebue and Selawik
- 70 local individuals hired and trained
- 492 home visits
- 2,000+ people to receive energy efficiency and conservation education and resources
- Energy bill savings

#### **ENERGY WISE REQUIRES RESOURCES:**

- RurAL CAP will continue to approach the legislature in January and February with a funding request for Energy Wise
- Proposal submitted to the Rasmuson Foundation for supply funding
- Ongoing search for other funding sources to supplement the cost of Energy Wise in Rural Alaska
- RurAL CAP has been on track to finish on time and on budget

#### **IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:**

- April/May use evaluation to update supply/purchasing
- May/June purchase supplies
- July/August receive supplies and update training materials, review outcomes from prior years; collaborate with partners to strengthen outcomes
- September Crew Leaders hired
- October Crew Members receive professional certification
- October/November Launch week (training, energy fairs, community involvement)
- November January: Home visits
- April 30 Follow-up home visits conducted
- May 31 Final report to Partners by May 31

#### Rural Alaska wants Energy Wise!

- Interested sponsors of the Energy Wise project may contact our office
  - A budget utilizing regional/local cost estimates can be completed
  - Stakeholders can be contacted, including:
     Tribal/Municipal Councils, Housing Authorities,
     Regional/Village Corporations, Regional Non-profit
     Organizations, School Districts, CDQ groups, etc.



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