

# Weatherization Leveraged Partnerships Project

## Who We Are

The Weatherization Leveraged Partnerships Project is funded by the Department of Energy to offer training and assistance to WAP subgrantees and their associations in designing private partnerships and programs that leverage the WAP.

## What We Can Offer

Our team can offer program design examples that complement WAP and LIHEAP, sample testimonies for advocacy at the utility commission, templates for allocating leveraging dollars through the state plan, and connections to peers and energy advocates who have created successful partnerships and programs in their state!

## How to Get in Touch

[nkramer@communityactionpartnership.com](mailto:nkramer@communityactionpartnership.com)

<http://bit.ly/EnergyPartnerships>

[www.weatherizationplus.org](http://www.weatherizationplus.org)



## Two Sources to Fund the “Start-Up” & Continuation of Your Leveraging Initiative

### The BEST Source: Set Aside WAP Dollars in the State Plan to Fund the Process

The statute explains that you can use WAP money to fund staff, research, and expert witnesses to get the process and partnerships started:

#### From the WAP Statute - 42 U.S. Code § 6864a - Private sector investments

- (b) **Use of funds** Financial assistance provided under this section may be used for—
- (1) the negotiation of such partnerships, agreements and other arrangements;
  - (2) the presentation of arguments before State or local agencies;
  - (3) expert advice on the development of such partnerships, agreements, and other arrangements; or
  - (4) other activities reasonably associated with the development and initial implementation of such arrangements.

But this allocation has to be defined in your state plan:

#### 440.14 State plans

[must include]... (xiv) The amount of Federal funds and how they will be used to increase the amount of weatherization assistance that the State obtains from non-Federal sources, including private sources, and the expected leveraging effect to be accomplished.

See more at <http://www.opportunitystudies.org/leveraging/basics/leveraging-statute/>

### May Also Utilize LIHEAP Dollars to Fund the Start-Up Process

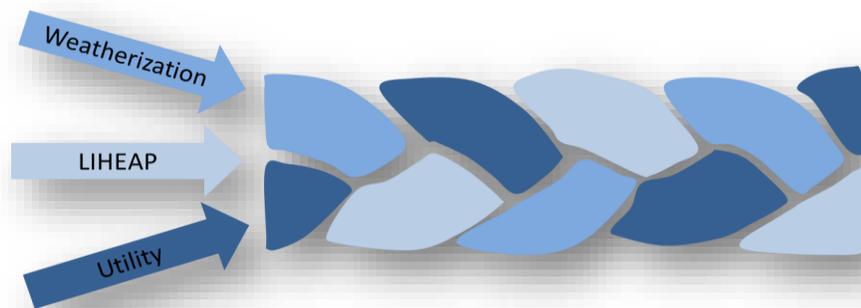
See the allowance of .08 percent or \$35,000 outlined in statute below:

#### 42 U.S.C. 8626- Incentive program for leveraging non-Federal resources

(c)(2) A State may expend funds allocated under this title as are necessary, not to exceed 0.08 percent of such allocation or \$35,000 each fiscal year, whichever is greater, to identify, develop, and demonstrate leveraging programs. Funds allocated under this section shall only be used for increasing or maintaining benefits to households.

This allocation must also be defined in the LIHEAP state plan.

*The Goal is Braided Funding Streams for a Larger Program with Greater Impact*



## Program Design Considerations: Things Your WAP Network Should Know and Discuss

### **A Few Types of Weatherization-Utility Partnerships**

After advocacy efforts at the utility commission or the state legislature:

- Ratepayer dollars are transferred to the state WAP office or another state office to be implemented through a network like WAP
- A utility implements its low-income efficiency program in its designated service territory through your WAP network
- And many other variations of utility partnership with local WAP agencies!

### **Considerations When Designing These Programs –Compatibility with Weatherization**

Your WAP network is seeking a partnership with complementary resources for the existing WAP.

- Will the program pay for non-energy benefits?
- Will the program pay for support costs?
- Will eligibility and priority customers align with the existing program?
- Will the program require a different audit process?
- Will the state, a third party, or the utility staff provide quality control?

### **Like Other New Projects and Developments, People and Timing are Everything**

When creating your strategy, remember these tips from other advocates:

- Assign a point person who will represent your interests at the utility commission, track the issues, organize the agencies within the state, and coordinate with potential partners
- Be intentional with your timing, to take advantage of relevant commission meetings and legislative agenda items
- Capitalize on the existing relationships you have in the community to demonstrate support