

# Weatherization in Arizona

**Success Stories Show How Energy-Efficiency Measures Reduce Fuel Usage and Energy Costs and Create Safer, Healthier, More Comfortable Homes**

## Weatherization works

- The Arizona Weatherization Program installs energy-efficiency measures in homes of low-income families and individuals to reduce fuel use and energy costs, increase energy efficiency and create safer, healthier, more comfortable homes.
- Weatherization needs for each qualifying home, apartment, condo, townhouse or mobile home are determined through computerized energy audits using advanced diagnostic equipment.
- Residents in weatherized homes learn about energy conservation
- For every \$1 invested in weatherization measures, \$2.69 is returned in energy and non-energy related benefits.
- For every \$1 million invested, weatherization creates 52 direct and 23 indirect jobs.



## Weatherization measures include (but are not limited to)

- Adding thermal insulation
- Shading sun-exposed windows
- Sealing ducts and leaks around windows and doors
- Tuning, repairing or replacing heating and cooling systems
- Health and safety tests for combustion, safety, carbon monoxide and gas leaks



## Weatherization increases energy efficiency.

- Since 2009, more than 3,700 home energy retrofits have been completed
  - saving homeowners \$1.08 million
  - reducing energy use by 9.5 million kilowatt hours
  - reducing emissions by the equivalent of NOT driving 17.4 million miles on Arizona roads

## Weatherization reduces

- household fuel costs between 25% and 35%
- carbon dioxide emissions by an average of 53 tons per household
- energy consumption by the equivalent of 24.1 barrels of oil a year.



# Success Stories

## Sharon Lessard, Prescott Valley

Sharon Lessard's "new" home had leaks in the ceiling, and under the bathroom, and she could only heat or cool one-half of her home. She was worried how the mold that formed from moisture from the leaks would impact her health. Sharon lives on a limited income and could not afford needed repairs. An energy audit revealed ceiling air leaks and water leaks inside walls and a heating/cooling unit working at less than 82% efficiency on one side of the home and not working at all on the other side. Corrective measures included resealing the duct system and installation of a new HVAC unit, energy efficient light bulbs, smoke alarms and CO<sub>2</sub> detectors.

### Weatherization impact:

The contractor anticipates a 25-30% savings on energy bills. The health issues associated with potential mold have been addressed. She is more comfortable in her home.



## Kathy Turley, Woodruff

Before her home was weatherized, curtains fluttered even when the windows were closed. Even worse, varmints found their way into the house through loose grates. Kathy was struggling financially to live in the home and pay the taxes. Weatherization for her home included sealing windows, doors, ducts and grates; a new heater/cooling system; and installation of additional insulation.

### Weatherization Impact:

- Animals stay where they belong: outside.
- The only breezes in the house come through open windows.
- Her energy bills dropped from a high of \$200 a month to between \$40 and \$50 a month.



## Mona Ziem, 86, Prescott

Mona, who lives in a mobile home and depends on Social Security, was struggling to make ends meet. She enjoys baking bread for friends, but her old oven had only one burner working, and it would consistently burn the bread. Through weatherization efforts, she obtained a new heater/air conditioner and a new stove.

### Weatherization Impacts:

- Her winter heating bill went from more than \$100 a month to \$57.
- She can now bake bread without burning it.



## Frank and Pamela Randall, Casa Grande

Frank and Pamela's 1957 energy-inefficient home leaked air through windows, ceiling vents, cracks around the doors and even from a one-inch hole behind the stove. Their hot water heater and air conditioner weren't working either. The Randalls made improvements they could, including a new air conditioner, but couldn't afford much beyond that. Weatherization for their home included a home energy audit, duct sealing, a new water heater, sun screens, and installation of both CO<sub>2</sub> and smoke alarms.

### Weatherization Impact:

Their monthly kilowatt hours dropped by 2,065 kilowatts (nationally, the average yearly heating and cooling bill savings from weatherization is 35%).



## Joanne Hale, Verde Valley

After retiring from her job in Santa Cruz County, Joanne moved to a double-wide mobile home in the Verde Valley. Her undersized heating and cooling unit deteriorated significantly over the years, boosting her energy costs to \$300 a month. Joanne lived on a fixed income and supported her son who had lost his job. Weatherization for her home included a comprehensive energy audit, installation of a new HVAC system, sealing of the duct system, and installation of both CO<sub>2</sub> and smoke detectors and energy efficient light bulbs.

### Weatherization Impact:

- Her energy bills decreased by 50%.
- She was better able to maintain her home on her fixed income.



Arizona Community Action Association

Advocating, Educating and Partnering to Prevent and Alleviate Poverty

### Partners

- 9 Community Action Programs statewide
- Governor's Office of Energy Policy, [www.governor.state.az.org](http://www.governor.state.az.org)

### Information

- Arizona Community Action Association, (602) 604-0640, [www.azcaa.org](http://www.azcaa.org)
- Find out if you're eligible for weatherization assistance at [www.weatherization.azcaa.org/how-to-apply](http://www.weatherization.azcaa.org/how-to-apply).