



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TRAINING TO BEGIN FOR RECOVERY ACT WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

PARTNERSHIP WITH TVA PROVIDES TRAINING FOR CONTRACTORS AND ENERGY AUDITORS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Department of Human Services announced today that training will begin next week to prepare energy auditors and contractors to weatherize thousands of homes across Tennessee, including homes of some families not previously eligible for the program. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will provide up to \$99 million for weatherization projects in Tennessee.

Weatherization is the federal energy efficiency program for low- to moderate-income families. The types of weatherization projects allowed under the program may include installation of storm windows and insulation, air and duct sealing, caulking, and other related activities to reduce home energy costs and increase home energy efficiency.

“The Recovery Act’s weatherization program will be good for Tennessee on two important levels,” said Governor Phil Bredesen. “Not only will the program help low- to moderate-income Tennesseans lower their energy bills, it will also get licensed and trained Tennessee contractors back to work.”

With recent changes in the eligibility requirements for the program, more Tennesseans than ever will be eligible for weatherization assistance.

“The Recovery Act calls for the program to be available to households with an income of up to 200 percent of poverty, and the General Assembly recently enacted changes to Tennessee’s program to mirror this requirement,” explained DHS Commissioner Gina Lodge. “That means, for example, a family of three with an income of up to \$36,620 could be eligible for weatherization assistance.”

The change in eligibility from 125 percent of poverty to 200 percent will take effect July 1, 2009. Priority will still be given to the elderly, people with disabilities and families with small children.

DHS has reached an agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to provide highly technical training sessions for energy auditors and weatherization contractors. Energy auditors identify the most cost-effective means for reducing heating and cooling usage in the home. Under the DHS-TVA partnership, the department will provide TVA with the energy efficiency improvement data from the 10-12,000 newly weatherized homes. The non-personal data will help TVA with future power supply planning and offer insight into the impacts of various energy efficiency measures on a wide variety of homes in the Tennessee Valley.

DHS works with a network of 18 local community agencies that will carry out the weatherization program. The TVA-led training sessions are being coordinated through these local agencies. Any interested licensed contractor or energy auditor should contact their local agency for training times and locations or visit the DHS Recovery Website at <http://tn.gov/wap>. Training space is limited and registration is required by calling the following temporary toll free number: 1-877-830-3304.

TVA is the nation’s largest public power provider and is completely self-financing. TVA provides power to large industries and 158 power distributors that serve approximately 9 million consumers in seven southeastern states. Tennessee is its largest service area. The Recovery weatherization program provides opportunities for local

CITIZENS PLAZA, 15TH FLOOR
400 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TN 37248
615.313.4700

community action agencies to partner with TVA to help leverage resources in order to support increased weatherization training needs under an accelerated timeframe.

For more information on DHS and its programs, visit www.tn.gov/humanserv

For a list of all Weatherization Assistance Program agencies in the Tennessee and the counties they serve, please see below:

BLOUNT COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

3509 Tuckaleechee Pike
Maryville, Tennessee 37703
(865)983-8411
Serving Blount County
www.blountcaa.org

CHATTANOOGA HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

501 West 12th Street
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402
(423) 757-5538
Serving Hamilton County
www.Chattanooga.gov/82_HumanServices.htm

DELTA HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY

P. O. Box 634 - 915 Highway 51 South
Covington, Tennessee 38019
(901) 476-5226
Serving Fayette, Lauderdale & Tipton Counties

HIGHLAND RIM ECONOMIC CORPORATION

P.O. Box 208 - 213 College Street
Erin, Tennessee 37061
(931) 289-4101
Serving Dickson, Houston, Humphreys & Stewart Counties
www.highlandrim.org

BRADLEY-CLEVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. Box 3297, 155 Sixth Street, S.E.
Cleveland, Tennessee 37320
(423) 479-4111 x 101
Serving Bradley County

CLARKSVILLE-MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

350 Pageant Lane, Suite 307
Clarksville, TN 37040
(931) 648-5774
www.cmccaa.com

KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

2247 Western Avenue, PO Box 51650
Knoxville, Tennessee 37950-1650
(865) 637-6700
Serving Knox County
www.knoxcac.org

EAST TENNESSEE HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY

9111 Cross Park Drive, Suite D100
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(865) 691-2551 or (800) 552-0127 x 4825
Serving: Anderson, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Monroe, Morgan, Scott, Sevier & Union Counties
www.ethra.org

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AGENCY

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(615) 252-8500
Serving Davidson County
www.nashville.gov/mdha

MID-EAST COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

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Rockwood, Tennessee 37854
(865) 354-0450
Serving Loudon and Roane Counties
www.mecaa.net

SHELBY COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

100 North Main, Suite 1300
Memphis, Tennessee 38103-0513
(901) 545-4630
Serving Shelby County
www.shelbycountyttn.gov

SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY

1012 Resource Road, P. O. Box 909
Dunlap, Tennessee 37327
(423) 949-2191
Serving Bledsoe, Grundy, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Polk, Rhea & Sequatchie Counties

MID-CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

233 Legend Drive, Suite 103, P. O. Box 310
Lebanon, Tennessee 37088-0310
(615) 742-1113 or 1137
Serving Cheatham, Sumner, Trousdale, Rutherford, Robertson, Wilson & Williamson Counties
www.mid-cumberlandcaa.com

**NORTHWEST TENNESSEE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

231 S. Wilson Street
Dresden, Tennessee 38225
(731) 364-3228
Serving Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson,
Henry, Lake, Obion & Weakley Counties
www.nwcommunityaction.org

SOUTH CENTRAL HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY

606 Lee Avenue, P. O. Box 638
Fayetteville, Tennessee 37334
(931) 433-7182
Serving Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Hickman,
Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore,
Perry & Wayne Counties
www.schra.us

SOUTHWEST HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY

1527 White Avenue
Henderson, Tennessee 38340
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Henderson, Madison & McNairy Counties
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**UPPER CUMBERLAND HUMAN RESOURCE
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Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Smith,
Warren, White & Van Buren Counties
www.uchra.com

**UPPER EAST TENNESSEE HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

301 Louis Street, P. O. Box 46
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662
(423) 246-6180
Serving Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson,
Unicoi, Sullivan, Washington
www.uethda.org

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