

Warm Homes Clean Air

An Oakridge Community Project





What is the Warm Homes Clean Air Project?

The Warm Homes Clean Air Project matches Oakridge and Westfir residents with funding programs that help with the cost of weatherization, home repairs and heating upgrades.

The Project's Conception

- Grant money was available for a “collaborative” project
- After receiving grant, a consultant was hired to bring program partners together
- Oakridge area was targeted because of air quality issues and use of wood stoves





Who Are the Warm Homes Clean Air Partners?



City of Oakridge



United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development



Oregon Housing and Community Services



Lane County



Housing and Community Services Agency of Lane County



Lane Regional Air Protection Agency



United States Environmental Protection Agency



Lane Electric Cooperative



Oregon Department of Energy



St. Vincent DePaul

The Warm Homes Campaign

- Candidates for LRAPA Public Affairs Coordinator job developed campaign strategies as part of interview process. Many good ideas were generated.
- Meeting with community helped shape campaign
- Fliers were inserted in local paper
- Volunteers placed door hangers at residences
- Color posters were placed in business and office windows throughout town
- Bill stuffers were sent out with electric bills
- Community workshop was held in Oakridge

The Warm Homes Campaign



A total saturation campaign resulted in an overflow crowd of over 120 residents at the Warm Homes kick-off workshop.



What Type of Help is Available?



- Heating:
 - Heat Pump
 - Pellet Stove
 - Electric Furnace
 - Oil Heater
 - Propane Heater
 - Certified Wood Stove



- Weatherization:
 - Duct Sealing
 - Exhaust Ventilation System
 - Thermal Windows
 - Storm Doors
 - Insulation



- Home Repair:
 - Electrical
 - Plumbing
 - Structural



Who Qualifies?



- Assistance is available for homeowners, renters and landlords
- Programs available to all income levels



How Does the Program Work?

- Residents fill out the application form
- Forms are screened by project partners to match residents with assistance
- Residents are notified by project partners



Residential Interest Form



Warm Homes/Clean Air Residential Interest Form

Please complete this interest form to enroll in the Oakridge Warm Homes/Clean Air Community Project. Assistance is available for home heating system upgrades, weatherization, and home repairs. Your application will be screened to determine if you qualify for low interest loans, grants, or other financial assistance which are available through our program partners. Funding resources are limited and program eligibility is not guaranteed.

Name _____ Street Address _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
e-mail _____

Tell us about your property. (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single family house | <input type="checkbox"/> I/we own our home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment or duplex | <input type="checkbox"/> I/we rent our home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufactured home on private lot | <input type="checkbox"/> I own this residence and rent it out. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufactured home in park | |

What is your current total household annual income? Gross
 Under \$25,000 \$25,000 - \$30,000 \$30,001 - \$35,000 Over \$35,000

How many people live at this residence? _____ Does anyone in your household have a disability? Yes No

How many are in each of the following age groups?

_____ Infants to age six _____ Children age 7-17 _____ Adults age 18-59 _____ Adults age 60-61 _____ Adults 62 or older

Residential Interest Form

What is your home's source of heat? Check all that apply.

Wood Electric Oil/propane Heat pump Pellet stove Solar

Which improvements or assistance would you like:

Heating:

Heat pump
 Pellet stove
 Electric furnace
 Oil heater
 Propane heater
 Certified wood stove

Weatherization:

Duct sealing
 Exhaust ventilation system
 Thermal windows
 Storm doors
 Insulation

Home Repair:

Electrical
 Plumbing
 Structural

Are you interested in having an energy audit or indoor air quality testing? Energy audit Indoor air quality testing

Would you like a smoke detector or carbon monoxide (CO) detector? Smoke detector CO detector

If you heat with wood, is your stove certified? Yes No Don't know

How old is your stove? 0-5 years 5-10 years 10-15 years Over 15 years

Is wood your home's sole source of heat? Yes No

How is the program funded?



- Initial grant of \$20,000 covered cost of consultant and materials
- Individual agencies pay for work for residents who meet their program requirements
- LRAPA provided rebates for woodstove change outs
- Funding from partner agencies exceeded \$650,000



The Woodstove Rebate Program

- Warm Homes applications screened for residents who heated with wood stoves
- Letter sent to residents notifying them about rebate program
- LRAPA provided rebates based on emission reduction
 - \$2,500 for oil or propane
 - \$2,000 for a pellet stove
 - \$500 for a certified woodstove
- LRAPA staff conducted home visits to verify eligibility and approve residents for program

Results

- 55 uncertified wood stoves replaced
 - 1 propane system
 - 9 high-efficiency oil heaters
 - 36 pellet stoves
 - 9 certified woodstoves
- Based on replacements, calculated reduction of 8,697 lbs. of particulate per year
- Further reductions from home repairs and weatherization that reduce energy use

Case Study: Danny A.

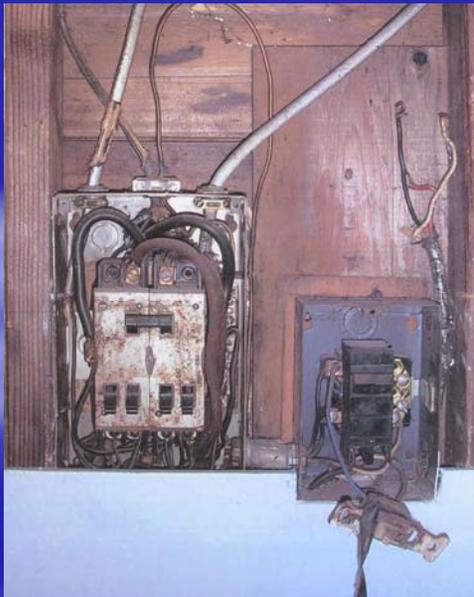
- Developmentally-disabled resident living in substandard housing
- Home needed numerous repairs
- Woodstove not installed to code and a fire hazard
- Multiple agencies partnered to fund stove upgrade, weatherization and home and electrical repairs
 - LRAPA
 - Housing and Community Services of Lane County
 - USDA Rural Housing and Development



Home in very poor condition



Old woodstove used pellet stove piping: another fire hazard



Major electrical problems: fire hazard



New woodstove and chimney with fire proofing

What worked well

- Media/publicity “blitz” in the community
- Involving local citizens in process
- One-on-one contact with residents via meetings, volunteers placing door hangers
- Broad scope of work including home weatherization and repair, not just stove change outs
- Leveraging funding through partnerships

What Have Been Major Challenges?

- Overcoming public perception that air quality is not a problem
- Lack of time and opportunity to review grant applications
- Determining the best way to disburse rebates

Lessons Learned

- Future can not be predicted!
 - Pellet shortage
- Stricter guidelines for vendors are needed
 - Bids/certified installers
- Opportunities for dishonesty/fraud
- Some people are never happy
- Organization and dedication bring people together to accomplish great things!

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