



Green & Healthy Homes Initiative®

Federal Agency Policy Brief Recommendations

US Department of Energy (DOE)

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Training and Workforce Development (DOE)

- Training Experience: Developed from our housing, health and energy services to families in Maryland, and based on our innovative holistic housing intervention model, GHHI has designed, implemented and evaluated healthy housing and energy efficiency training curricula and provided training and certification for hundreds of partners nationally.
- National Workforce Development Models that advance economic mobility and racial equity
 - Master Home Environmentalists (Memphis): Trains and employs residents to complete healthy homes assessments and minor interventions in their own neighborhoods.
 - RI Builder's Association Latino Advisory Board Training Partnership: Trains, certifies and increases access to technology for Hispanic and Latinx housing professionals in Central Falls, RI, funded with CDBG CARES supplement
 - Lancaster County, PA Workforce Development: Model for partnership with community-based workforce development organization to support residents entering the HH workforce, and locally-owned, Black and Brown-led businesses. Requires contracting firms to hire from community and provide a living wage.

Healthcare Reimbursement (DOE)

- GHHI did the economic analysis and pilot design for the NYSERDA / New York Medicaid \$10 million Value-Based Payment (VBP) Healthy Homes Pilot where Medicaid health plans will fund services out of the outcomes produced.
- GHHI is working on a multi-agency state healthy homes and energy efficiency program targeted to Connecticut Medicaid members with asthma and at risk of lead poisoning and falls. The program was developed in partnership with CT Greenbank
- GHHI has worked to achieve reimbursement from healthcare for healthy homes services in Maryland, Utah, Michigan, Rhode Island, and Texas.
- GHHI has also developed a public-private partnership model for investment in healthy homes services in partnership with a New York Medicaid MCO.

Executive Actions (DOE)

- Target Weatherization Assistance Program resources to align with health outcomes, including allowing for the replacement of leaded windows using WAP funds
- Study the non-energy benefits of energy efficiency and weatherization improvements funded by WAP to expand the level and types of supported interventions
- Target WAP resources to advance energy equity by directing 40% of programmatic budget to under-resourced communities and directly funding community-based organizations
- Allow client applications for WAP to be submitted online
- Study the impacts of Weatherization and Energy Efficiency interventions on racial equity and economic mobility



Executive Actions (DOE)

- Advance Climate Goals through residential energy efficiency
 - Work with the EPA to more effectively track carbon reduction impact of WAP projects
 - Incentivize adoption of energy codes and emissions standards reduction targets by states and localities
- Allow states to utilize at least 35% of their WAP program budgets to address pre-weatherization health and safety measures
- Explore the use of Community Reinvestment Act-mandated investment, Community Benefits and other healthcare investment to support residential energy efficiency projects



Recommendations for Legislative Action (DOE)

- Increase funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program
- Increase funding for the State Energy Program
- Support the creation of a \$200 million supplemental grant program within DOE EERE for health and safety
- Reinstate the Innovation Program supporting aligned housing, health and energy interventions



Recommendations for Legislative Action (DOE)

- Explore the alignment of the WAP with HUD Lead Grants and other housing programs
- Fund, in partnership with HUD and Dept. Of Labor, cross-training and apprenticeship programs that build capacity in the healthy homes and residential energy efficiency sectors, focusing on Black and Brown residents and communities.
- Explore the use of energy burden to qualify households for WAP

