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Helping People, Changing Lives

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Providing Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and Heating and Air Repair and Replacement Program (HARRP) services to Low-Income Families

*Proudly Serving Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Stanly, and Union Counties*

# Weatherization

A Program With Many Names

*Most Commonly Used Names*

1. Whatchamacallit Program
2. Winterization
3. That Free Heat Program
4. Insulation Program
5. Doors & Windows Program

# Weatherization Facts

- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety.
- Low-income households carry a larger burden for energy costs, typically spending **16.3%** of their total annual income versus **3.5%** for other households (*2014 ORNL study*). Often, they must cut back on healthcare, medicine, groceries, and childcare to pay their energy bills.
- Through weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$283 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program.
- Weatherization helps alleviate this heavy energy burden through cost-effective building shell improvements such as insulation and air sealing, HVAC systems, lighting, and appliances.
- More than 3,000 North Carolina families benefit from the program annually. Priority is placed on providing assistance to the elderly, individuals with disabilities and families with children.
- Since the program began in 1976, WAP has helped improve the lives of than 7 million families through weatherization services.

# So What IS Weatherization?

- **Weatherization is ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!**

*-ALL services rendered as part of Weatherization are at NO COST to the client. However, rentals require the landlord's permission and in some instances may require a monetary contribution for services.*

**-There is no lien, loan, or other financial obligations attached to this program.**

- **The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low-income families save energy and reduce utility bills by improving energy efficiency, improving household safety, and educating the public about maintaining energy efficiency.**

- **Weatherization involves comprehensive testing of the home to determine what energy efficiency measures need to be installed. Once identified measures are installed by State-approved contractors.**

- **The program's focus is on the elderly, the disabled, families with children, high energy users and the energy burdened.**

*-The goal of the NC Weatherization Assistance Program is to keep North Carolina citizens warm in the winter, cool in the summer, and safe all year long.*

- **Households that receive weatherization assistance may also get help through the Heating and Air Repair and Replacement Program (HARRP).**

*-This program offers replacement of inefficient heating and air systems.*

# What the Weatherization Program does:

- Educates clients in safety and energy efficiency
- Professionally evaluates single family dwellings, multi family dwellings, and mobile homes for safety and energy efficiency
- Tunes, repairs, or replaces heating and air systems as needed
- Insulates attics, floors, and walls as needed
- Makes minor repairs to homes for health and safety reasons
- Installs smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Performs baseload and general heat waste measures
- Installs vapor barriers as needed
- General air sealing
- Installs an Ashrae fan (*Required in order to receive services*)

# What the Weatherization Assistance Program Does NOT do:

- Replace doors
- Replace windows
- Replace bathtubs or sinks
- Build additions
- Cosmetic repairs such as painting, retiling floors or bathrooms, lay carpet, landscaping, etc. are not a part of Weatherization.
- Paint (other than areas disturbed by weatherization work)
- Lead based paint and asbestos abatements
- Mold remediation
- Install underpinning on mobile homes
- Termite treatments

# What type of Structures can be Weatherized.

Weatherization assistance is available for :

- **Single-family homes**
- **Multifamily homes**  
*Cannot exceed 4 connected units and/or 5 buildings total on property*
- **Apartments**  
*We do not weatherize apartments.*
- **Condominiums**  
*Cannot exceed 4 connected units and/or 5 buildings total on property. Must be individually metered.*
- **Mobile homes (NOT campers)**
- **Duplex/Triplex**

# Dwelling Eligibility

- You DO NOT have to own your own home to be eligible.
- Renters MUST have written permission from their landlord and a contribution may be required.

*NOTE: The landlord contribution is waived if the landlord qualifies for weatherization based on his/her income.*

- Property cannot be for sale.
- No renter occupied dwelling shall be weatherized if it's for sale; unless, it can be demonstrated that the residence will continue to be occupied by income eligible tenants.
- Foreclosures or properties included in a bankruptcy can NOT be weatherized.
- Non-stationary campers and trailers cannot be weatherized.



# Who is Eligible?

- Families with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for services.
- Families are categorically eligible for NC WAP assistance if, in the prior 12 months, any member of that household has received the following benefits:
  - Supplemental Security Income
  - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
  - Low Income Energy Assistance Program
  - Crisis Intervention Program
- However, the HARRP (Heating) program does not recognize categorically eligibility. You must not exceed 200% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- **ALL occupants** must provide a Social Security number in order to receive services. Individual Tax Identification Numbers (ITIN) numbers are not accepted.

# Income Levels for Weatherization Based on Family Size

Weatherization & HARRP  
200% Poverty Guidelines

Family Size	Annual
1	\$29,160
2	\$39,400
3	\$43,920
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560
7	\$90,480
8	\$101,120
+9	Add \$10,280

# Types of Income

- Money, wages and salaries before any deductions
- Net receipts from non-farm or farm self-employment (receipts from a person's own business or from an owned or rented farm after deductions for business or farm expenses)
- Regular payments from social; security, railroad retirement, unemployment compensation, strike benefits from union funds, worker's compensation , veteran's payments, training stipends, alimony and military family allotments
- Private pensions, government employee pensions (including military retirement pay) and regular insurance or annuity payments
- Dividends, interest, bonds, and other investments (including 401 (k), 403(b) , SEP, ESOP, 457 and IRA)
- Net rental income, net royalties (not applicable to room share/boarders)
- Periodic receipts from estates or trusts
- Net gambling or lottery winnings

# What is considered not income:

- Capital gains
- Any assets drawn down as withdrawals from a bank
- Money received from the sale of property, a house, or a car
- One-time payments from a welfare agency to a family or person who is in temporary financial difficulty
- Tax refunds
- Gifts, loans, lump sum inheritances
- College scholarships
- One-time insurance payments, or compensation for injury
- Non-cash benefits, such as the employer-paid or union-paid portion of health
- Employee fringe benefits, food or housing received in lieu of wages
- The value of food and fuel produced and consumed on farms
- The imputed value of rent from owner-occupied non-farm or farm housing
- Federal non-cash benefit programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps , school lunches, housing assistance and combat zone pay too the military
- Adopt ion assistance
- Child support & foster support payments, whether received by the payee or paid by the payer
- Reverse mortgages

# What will you need when you apply for Services?

- **Proof of income:** Verification of 12 month gross income for everyone in the household. Income is defined as cash receipts earned and/or received before taxes or deductions.
- **Proof of Social Security Numbers:** Verification of social security numbers for all persons in the household (such as Social Security Card, printout of number from Social Security Office).
- **12 month utility usage:** A printout of 12 month's electricity usage. The 12 month account history must include kilowatt hours; meter reading date, number of days in the meter cycle and billing amount. The printout must include the account name and account number.
- **12 month heating usage:** If your source of heat is electricity it will be included in your electric usage printout. For natural gas include a print out of the past 12 months heating bill history including Therms/CCFs used. The printout must include the account name and account number. If your source of heat is kerosene, propane, fuel oil, or wood please provide your heating information from one of the following:
  1. Receipts for how much was purchased each month
  2. Print out from heating company on how much was purchased each month.
- **Proof of ownership of your home:** We must verify property ownership. A copy of property tax card or property parcel listing may be used. The property description must include the owner name and a description of the property. For mobile homes provide a copy of the DMV title or tax card. We cannot use a warranty deed as verification of ownership.
- **Rental or Heir property:** Weatherization services may be provided on rental or heir property with the required documentation. Applicant must provide the will indicating who the heirs are, some other legal document (notarized statement is not sufficient), or go the County Clerk of Deeds office and have the property put into their name.
- **Rental Property:** The landlord must give approval for services. The landlord must review and complete a landlord agreement. The landlord must attach verification of ownership documentation. **Landlord may have to make a contribution towards heating services received.**
- **Lifetime Rights:** If you have lifetime Rights you must provide a copy of the lifetime rights document. This document must be registered with the Clerk of Courts office.
- **Heir Property** – If the property is listed as heir property all legal heirs of the property must give permission for weatherization services
- **Multifamily Units:** A multifamily unit is a building or structure that is designed to house several different families in separate housing units. The most common type of multifamily housing is an apartment building. If you reside in a condo or townhouse that is deeded directly to the applicant, you may apply for weatherization services. Apartment homes are not eligible if you do not own the home.

# Important Facts About the Application Process

- There is a waitlist for services.
- Clients are selected for service based on a State-mandated priority score system.
- Just because you are income eligible for services does NOT mean services will be rendered.
- Whether or not services are rendered depend on the whole house assessment and available funding.
- BRCA cannot move a client up or down the waitlist. The priority score used to select clients is based upon information provided at time of application.
- The application will have to be updated if services have not been received within a year.
- A letter of eligibility will be sent once the application for services is processed.

# There are 2 Ways to Apply

1. **Complete application online by visiting:**

[www.brcainc.org/weatherization](http://www.brcainc.org/weatherization)

OR

2. **Call to speak with an Intake Specialist who can assist you with your application over the phone.**

Alexander, Burke Caldwell, Catawba, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Stanly, Union  
Counties call: 828-438-6255 ext. 1531



Taking applications at the following locations:

**Tara Vannoy**

*Community Service Coordinator*

Email: [Tvannoy@brcainc.org](mailto:Tvannoy@brcainc.org)

Direct #: 828-438-6255 ext. 1-581

Available for Group Presentations by Request