

Stimulus Money Helping Weatherize Homes



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LINCOLN HEIGHTS, Ohio -- With Friday being National Weatherization Day, the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency is demonstrating how it is able to help more low income homeowners and renters lower their utility bills.

Members of the Action Agency are showing people to weatherize their homes.

Work crews and officials descended on the Lincoln Heights home of Robert Carr, to show how they are planning to help him lower his utility bills this winter.

Carr is one of at least 1,400 Tri-State families the Action Agency hopes to help with weatherization over the next two years, thanks to an \$11 million federal stimulus grant. Before the grant, the agency was only able to afford to weatherize about 350 homes a year.

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In Carr's case, he had two crews working on his home. One crew was upstairs in plastic space-type pumping insulation between his out and inner walls.

Meanwhile, another crew was downstairs in the basement installing a new and more efficient water heater and furnace.

Carr estimates the one to two-day job will cut his winter utility bills from \$200 or more a month down to \$130 or less.

Agency officials say not only are low income families like the Carrs being helped by the stimulus money, but it is also allowing the agency to hire 22 additional weatherization workers, who were previously out of work.

The agency says it still is looking for other families in need of weatherization. The program is open to both homeowners and people who rent, as long as they have permission from the owner.

To get more information about the Weatherization program, call (513)569-1840 and ask for the CAA Weatherization Program at extension 1133.

If you live in Northern Kentucky or Southeastern Indiana, the Cincinnati program may be able to refer you to weatherization programs in your area.



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