Energy Star Seeks HA Nominations for Annual Reward Program

Energy Star products and programs often play a critical role in creative programs developed by Housing Agencies (HAs) to conserve scarce energy and money. If your HA has familiarized itself with Heat Savings: Energy Conservation Tips for Winter, it may wish to apply for Energy Star through independent, non-profit organizations that work with HAs to develop Energy Star projects. Each regional award winner will be considered for a National Energy Star Recognition Program and you may be rewarded for demonstrating excellence in promoting energy efficiency in affordable housing.

Regional Spotlight

This year's barrel prices clearly put the "rude" in crude oil. As oil prices soar to record highs, heating costs nationwide are expected to increase dramatically this winter. The temperature is projected to be four percent colder than last year and the gap between consumer utility allowances and rising heat and energy costs is a constant challenge. LIHEAP has continued to be a valuable resource for residents to apply for this year's energy assistance. Last year's Energy Star Awards (See pg.40) had a special category that rewarded for LIHEAP and Energy Star projects to be highlighted in the Energy Action Plan.

Resources

The Louisville Metro Housing Authority has been recognized four regional winners (CMHA) is in the midst of a $33.6 million Energy Performance Contracts Create Resident Employment Opportunities

CMHA residents installing a green roof

Energy Efficiency: Staying Cool During the Freeze in San Antonio, Texas

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Energy Star Nomination Application

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Energy Performance Contracting by Housing Authorities (HA) reached nearly $500 million in FY 07, benefiting residents with tremendous energy savings. Many HAs realized the added effect of 100% energy efficiency. HAs across the United States are finding that the labor intensiveness of most energy improvement contracts provide valuable job opportunities for residents. While residents earn a paycheck, the HAs achieve their goal of fostering resident self-sufficiency, as discussed in section 3 of the Housing Act of 1968.

One such example is in Cleveland, Ohio, where the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) is in the midst of a $33.6 million Energy Performance Contract for nearly 7,000 residential units. CMHA dedicated its original goal of providing residents with 25 percent of the contracting hours through August. This project has leveraged 77 percent of the total project hours.

Mark Novak, Director of CMHAs Energy Department, cites the Authoritys concerted efforts across all CMHC sites as a prime contributor to the success achieved by the residents. CMHAs required contractors to conduct hiring halls at each site to process applications and conduct background screening of the job applications to the CMHA. HAs employed 80 resident workers from 24 different CMHA properties.

Residents Can Help Residents Stay Warmer in Winter and Save Money on Energy Bills

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- **Reduced thermostat settings.** You can save an average of 3% for every 1° that you lower the thermostat setting. For example, if you normally keep your thermostat set at 75° all the time, you can reduce your heating bill by approximately $25 per month if you lower the thermostat setting. You can save an average of 3% for every 1° that you lower the thermostat setting. For example, if you normally keep your thermostat set at 75° all the time, you can reduce your heating bill by approximately $25 per month if you lower the thermostat setting.
- **Regardless of what your thermostat setting is, residents can keep an average $500 million dollars in FY 07, benefiting residents with tremendous energy savings.

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