

# Wyoming Department of Family Services

Jacqueline Petroski

March 6, 2009

- On February 17, 2009 the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was signed into law
- The ARRA has a huge impact on the Weatherization Program which the Department of Family Services administers



- For the 2008-2009 Weatherization year Wyoming received \$1.2 million dollars in Federal Weatherization funds
- For the 2009-2010 Weatherization year Wyoming will receive \$3.1 million dollars in Federal Weatherization funds
- With the ARRA Wyoming could see anywhere from \$7 to \$14 million dollars in additional funds
- We should have the final grant guidance and allocation for Wyoming no later than March 17<sup>th</sup>



- A Weatherization Advisory Group has been formed by the Department of Family Services
- The first meeting was held March 5<sup>th</sup> and had 24 people in attendance
- If you would like to be a part of this group please contact Heather Babbitt at 777-5357 or [HBABBI2@STATE.WY.US](mailto:HBABBI2@STATE.WY.US)
- This group will meet weekly to plan for the huge increase that Wyoming should see because of the ARRA and for the future of the Weatherization Program
- Our Governor has to accept the additional ARRA funds before we can officially move forward

# Changes that the ARRA brings to WX

1. The unit average will raise from \$2966 to \$6500
2. The Federal income guidelines have been raised to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Wyoming already uses 215% so this will not be an impact
3. It is anticipated that sub-grantees should be able to purchase equipment in advance
4. The \$3.1 million dollar grant and the ARRA grant money will be reported on seperately

5. There will be additional reporting requirements for the ARRA funds such as jobs created and equipment and vehicles purchased

6. When the stimulus package ends current word is that the Weatherization funds will not go back down



- This is very exciting for Wyoming. In 2007-2008 we had 11,035 people approved for LIEAP which would make them income eligible for Weatherization
- So far there have been 13,058 households approved for LIEAP for the 2008-2009 heating season
- These numbers means that there are a lot of potentially eligible households for Weatherization
- The ARRA funds will allow for many houses to be weatherized as well as create many jobs in Wyoming

## Other updates from the March 5<sup>th</sup> Advisory Meeting

1. WCDA will be having lead safe training at the end of the month in both Casper and Cheyenne. The training will be conducted by the University of North Dakota. For more information on this you can go to the WCDA website at [www.wyomingcda.com](http://www.wyomingcda.com)
2. For the 2009-2010 Weatherization season their will be extensive outreach separate from the LIEAP Program. This unsung program needs some accolades

A round of applause and a big thank you to all of you who helped so much with the extensive LIEAP campaign this year. It was extremely successful.

Thank you!!!



Questions?  
Concerns?  
Comments?

