

Did You Know?

- A low-income household spends 14% of their total annual income on energy compared to 3.5% for higher income households.
- Low-income families often cut back on other necessities to pay their energy bills.
- Weatherization reduces a household's gas, heating and cooling consumption by nearly 33% and creates average energy savings of \$300 per year.
- Annually, the CAP Riverside Weatherization program weatherized more than 650 homes.
- For every \$1.00 invested in weatherization, there is a return of \$2.10 in energy related benefits.

Every year, hundreds of homes are weatherized throughout Riverside County by Community Action Partnership (CAP) of Riverside County through the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). The Weatherization Assistance Program reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety.



CAP Riverside uses the Whole House Weatherization concept, which requires advanced diagnostic skills and cost-effective measure selection and installation. These homes include single-family homes, mobile homes, multi-family homes and apartment complexes for low income residents. Services vary and may include installation of water-saving showerheads, water heater blankets, furnace repair, attic insulation, and door and window replacements.

On April 17, 2007, a couple from Wildomar in Riverside County contacted CAP Riverside for utility payment assistance and weatherization. The husband and wife were both disabled and could not work. CAP Riverside provided weatherization and energy education to this family, enabling the family to live in a comfortable environment while reducing the cost of energy in the home. They learned about the cost of energy, benefits of energy conservation measure and practices, available programs and services, and energy and appliance safety. The customers were very grateful, and today they are comfortable, cozy and enjoying their new energy saving appliances.

Over the years, CAP Riverside has participated in leveraging incentive program. Under the program, CAP Riverside uses non-federal home energy resources for low-income households. For example, a 71 year-old very-low income handicapped customer from Palm Springs had phoned the City of Palm Springs Housing Units regarding water coming from his carport area. He requested immediate emergency help. The City of Palm Springs repaired the broken gas lines and water line, while CAP replaced the damaged 20 gallon water heater and relocated it outside of the home. The customer can now take a warm bath.

