

Ready for Recovery: Wisconsin’s Weatherization Program Ramp-Up

September 2, 2009

This report summarizes the Wisconsin weatherization network’s investments to expand the Weatherization Assistance Program (W.A.P.) in anticipation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding through the end of August. This report is based on a survey of 13 of Wisconsin’s weatherization providers, which deliver nearly 62% of the WAP services.

Wisconsin’s weatherization providers expect that their annual ARRA-funded program plus the regular federal and state W.A.P. funding will be *slightly less than double their 2008-09 production*. Local agencies have increased hiring and training and have built-up their equipment stocks in preparation to meet ARRA goals. The table below provides more details about these actions:

Wisconsin’s Ramp-up at a Glance:

Hired/Trained:	Count in 13 Agencies	Est. for all 25 agencies**
Agency Staff Hired	112	182
Still Interviewing for-	22	36
People Trained	114	185
People still training	85	138
Contractors soon to be under Contract	10	16
Purchased:		
Vehicles* [all US-made]	62	101

* 4 of the 62 have been leased, not purchased

** based on the assumption that the 13 agencies responding are allotted 61.6% of total W.A.P. funding.

Wisconsin’s Readiness Highlights:

- 112 jobs created by 13 agencies
 - 182 estimated created by all 25 agencies;
- 22 additional jobs soon to be filled by 13 agencies
 - 36 estimated to be filled by all 25 agencies;
- 10 contractors are soon to be under contract with 13 agencies
 - estimated 16 total with all 25 agencies;
- 114 people trained in 13 agencies/
 - estimated 185 trained by all 25 agencies;

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- 85 soon to complete training in 13 agencies
 - estimated 138 to complete training in all 25 agencies;
- 54 vehicles purchased – all US-made
 - estimated 101 vehicles purchased by all 25 agencies;
- Assets purchased:
 - blowing machines;
 - portable generators for blowing machines;
 - combustion analyzers;
 - blower doors;
 - infrared cameras;
 - various computer equipment.

More on Real Results, Real Readiness:

- Agencies have made preparations to hire procurement and Davis/Bacon compliance staff;
- Agencies have streamlined clerical functions and developed new specialized job descriptions with staff adequately cross-trained;
- Agencies have increased staff dedicated to subcontractor oversight, supervision and inspection;
- At least one CAA has hired a full-time specialist for inventory, vehicle fleet maintenance and truck loading;
- One agency has RFB out for customized software that will automate intake, job costing, inventory, ordering and tracking.

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