

# We're here for **YOU**



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Wisconsin Public Benefits Home Energy Plus Programs  
**JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022**

# Participating Utilities

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative  
Algoma Utilities  
Alliant Energy  
Arcadia, City of  
Argyle Municipal Utilities  
Bangor Municipal Utility  
Barron Electric Cooperative  
Barron Light & Water Utility  
Belmont Municipal Light and Water Utility  
Benton Municipal Utilities  
Black Earth Utilities  
Black River Falls Municipal Electric & Water  
Bloomer Electric Utility  
Boscobel Utilities  
Brodhead Water and Light Commission  
Cadott Light and Water Department  
Cashton Municipal Light and Water  
Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative  
Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative  
Clark Electric Cooperative  
Clintonville Utilities  
Columbus Water & Light  
Consolidated Water Power Company  
Cornell Municipal Electric Utility  
Cuba City Electric & Water Utility  
Cumberland Municipal Electric Utility  
Dahlberg Light & Power Company East  
Dunn Energy Cooperative  
Central Energy Cooperative  
Eau Claire Electric Cooperative  
Elkhorn, City of  
Elroy, City of  
Evansville Water & Light  
Fennimore Water & Light  
Florence Utilities  
Gresham Water & Electric Utility  
Hustisford Utilities  
Jackson Electric Cooperative  
Jefferson Utilities  
Jump River Electric Cooperative  
Juneau Utilities  
Kaukauna Utilities  
La Farge Municipal Utilities  
Lake Mills Light & Water  
Madison Gas & Electric  
Manitowoc Public Utilities  
Marshfield Electric and Water Department  
Medford Electric Utility  
Menasha Electric & Water Utilities

Merrillan, Village of  
Muscodas Utilities  
New Glarus Utilities  
New Holstein Utilities  
New Lisbon Municipal Electric & Water Department  
New London Utilities  
New Richmond Utilities  
North Central Power Company, Inc.  
Northwestern Wisconsin Electric Company  
Oakdale Electric Cooperative  
Oconto Electric Cooperative  
Oconto Falls Water and Light Commission  
Pardeeville Public Utilities  
Pioneer Power & Light Company  
Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative  
Prairie du Sac, Village of  
Price Electric Cooperative  
Princeton Municipal Utility  
Reedsburg Utility Commission  
Rice Lake Utilities  
Richland Center Electric Utility  
Richland Electric Cooperative  
Rock Energy Cooperative  
Scenic Rivers Electric Cooperative  
Shawano Municipal Utilities  
Shullsburg Electric Utility  
Spooner Municipal Utilities  
Stoughton Utilities  
Stratford Water and Electric Utility  
Sturgeon Bay Utilities  
Sun Prairie Utilities  
Superior Water Light & Power Company  
Taylor Electric Cooperative  
Trempealeau, Village of  
Two Rivers, City of  
Vernon Electric Cooperative  
Village of Mazomanie  
Viola Municipal Utility  
Waterloo Utilities  
Waupun Utilities  
We Energies  
Westby Electric Utility  
Westfield Electric  
Whitehall Electric Utility  
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation  
Wisconsin Rapids Waterworks and Lighting  
Wonewoc Municipal Water and Light Department  
Xcel Energy

## The Low Income Public Benefits Program

Wisconsin’s Public Benefits Program was created by the Wisconsin State Legislature in 1999 as part of the Reliability 2000 Initiative. In fiscal year 2022, the Low-Income Public Benefits Program was administered by the Department of Administration’s Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources.

The Low-Income Public Benefits Fund is funded by electric and natural gas utility ratepayers. Wisconsin’s investor-owned utilities are required by law to participate. Municipal electric utilities and electric cooperatives have the option of participating in the state program or operating their own “Commitment to Community” programs. Revenue for the Low-Income Public Benefits Fund comes from three sources:

1. Funds from investor-owned utilities collected through rates established by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, which include fees added to electric bills participating utilities collected and remitted to the state.
2. Funds contributed by participating municipal electric utilities and cooperatives.
3. Voluntary donations.

Households with income at or below 60 percent of Wisconsin’s State Median Income (SMI) may be eligible for the Home Energy Plus (HE+) Programs.

In fiscal year 2022, 249,232 households applied for energy assistance. The Low-Income Public Benefits Fund through Home Energy Plus provided assistance to 197,478 households with limited incomes throughout Wisconsin. The ultimate goal of all low-income energy programs is to make the households’ energy self-sufficient—that is, to provide services that help households meet energy costs on an ongoing basis without sacrificing other necessities. The programs are delivered to eligible households through county health and human service agencies,



community-action agencies, tribal governments, and other nonprofit organizations.

Home Energy Plus Programs receive significant financial contributions from the federal government through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) block grant and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). As a result of 1999 Wisconsin Act 9, these programs also receive state Public Benefits funding. Public Benefits funding was continued under 2005 Wisconsin Act 141. The Public Benefits Fund has allowed the state to increase the number of households that receive energy conservation and weatherization services, and to increase electric and emergency benefit payments. By integrating these funds with the federal LIHEAP and WAP, Wisconsin has developed a comprehensive assistance program that addresses “whole-house” energy needs.



### Public Benefits Programs 2022 Financial Highlights

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

#### REVENUES

Home Energy Plus.....	\$104,339,663
Public Service Commission:	
Administration Revenue.....	\$ -
Reverse Prior Year Prepaid Revenue .....	\$398,800
Lapse to General Fund.....	\$ -
Total Funding .....	\$104,738,463

#### EXPENSES

Home Energy Plus.....	\$100,904,000
Public Service Commission.....	\$408,432
Agency 437 (DCF TANF).....	\$9,139,700
Total Expenses.....	\$110,452,131

#### BALANCES

Beginning Fund Balance .....	\$24,011,597
Current Year Revenues .....	\$104,738,463
Current Year Expense.....	\$110,452,131
Total Fund Balance.....	\$18,297,929
Fund Balance .....	\$18,297,929
Less:	
Weatherization Commitments .....	(\$3,176,644)
WHEAP Commitments .....	(\$1,075,641)
Agency 155 Expense (PSC) Commitments .....	\$132
Plus:	
Accounts Receivable of FY19 Fees .....	\$12,429,290
Uncommitted Fund Balance* .....	\$26,475,065

\*A detailed financial report is available upon request.

# Program Highlights

## Electric Bill Assistance

Electric assistance is a one-time, annual payment intended to pay a portion of a household’s electricity costs. The amount of the benefit is dependent on the household’s income, size of the household, and electric costs incurred by the household. The energy used by electric appliances in a home is referred to as baseload energy use. Typically, baseload energy encompasses lighting, refrigeration, laundry appliances, and electronics. Water heating and cooking may also be considered baseload energy.

## Crisis Assistance

Crisis assistance is available to eligible households that were subject to disconnection of their utility service, or a fuel emergency. Crisis assistance is provided through both emergency services and preventive services. During the heating season (October 1 through May 15), emergency services helps customers by purchasing heating fuel (LIHEAP), supplying a warm place to stay, and/or providing for

emergency heating system repair or replacement. Preventive services helped residents avoid future emergencies by establishing co-payment plans between the customer, energy provider, and WHEAP agency. Training and information on how to reduce energy costs, budget counseling and money management, or taking other needs-based actions helped residents more effectively manage their energy bills.

## Heating Bill Assistance

Heating assistance is a one-time, annual payment intended to pay a portion of a household’s heating costs. The amount of the benefit is dependent on household income, size of the household, and heating costs incurred by the household. The benefit covers a percentage of a recipient’s household annual heating bill.<sup>1</sup> In most cases, the heating assistance benefit is applied directly to the household’s bill with the energy provider. Heating assistance is funded through the LIHEAP federal funds.

<sup>1</sup> In FY22, heating assistance paid on average 31% of an annual heating bill.

## Home Energy Plus Statistics: Fiscal Year 2022

### ELECTRIC ASSISTANCE (Public Benefits)

- Provided assistance to 201,853 households; Public Benefits provided assistance to 197,478 of these households
- Average Public Benefits payment: \$195

### CRISIS ASSISTANCE (Public Benefits)

- Provided assistance to 7,564 households
- Average payment: \$528

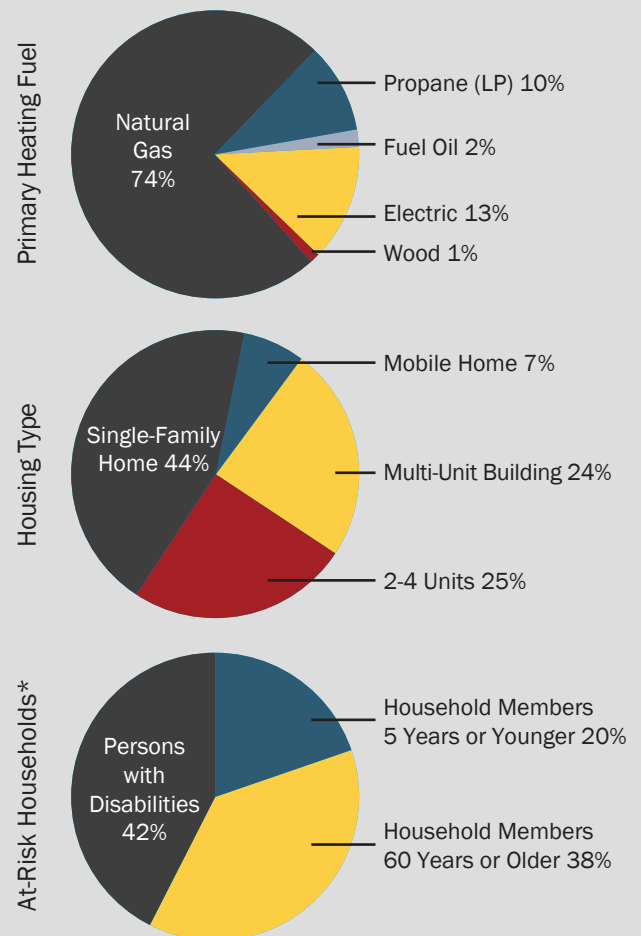
### HEATING BILL ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP)

- Provided assistance to 136,096 households
- Average payment: \$432
- ARPA LIHEAP provided assistance to 58,610 of these households\*
- Average ARPA LIHEAP payment: \$386

### CRISIS ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP)

- Provided LIHEAP assistance to 15,065 households
- Average payment: \$860
- Provided ARPA LIHEAP crisis assistance to households 15,080\*
- Average ARPA LIHEAP crisis payment \$613
- Provided CARES LIHEAP crisis assistance to households 14\*
- Average CARES LIHEAP crisis payment \$513

\*COVID Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding



\*Some households may be counted more than once when there is more than one household member in an at-risk category.

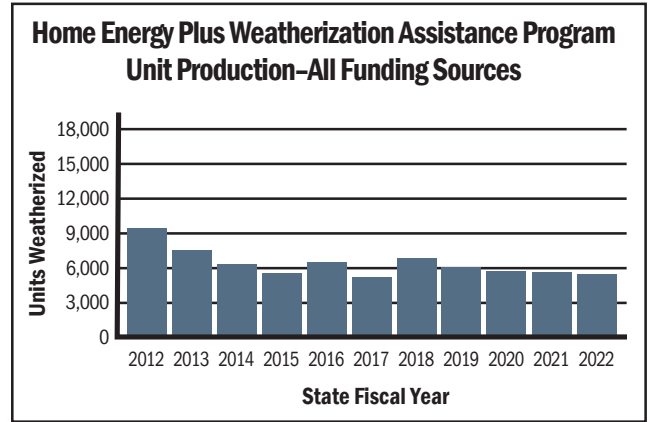
## Weatherization Services

The Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Low-Income Weatherization Program helped reduce home energy costs for 5,177 households by reducing home energy consumption. Households participating in the program can save \$390<sup>1</sup> each year on average.<sup>2</sup> As a result of participation in the program, customers' homes are more energy efficient and more comfortable—warmer in the winter, and cooler in the summer.

## Weatherization Services and the Economy

The Weatherization Program offers services in all 72 Wisconsin counties through a network of 18 local agencies. Utilities, energy assistance providers, and trade contractors are important partners in the successful delivery of weatherization services.

Weatherization benefits of energy efficiency and the corresponding “green jobs” are the seeds of economic recovery, job growth, and infrastructure development—all of which are at the core of the Home Energy Plus Programs. The weatherization and other downstream weatherization-related jobs continue to assist in employing Wisconsin laborers.

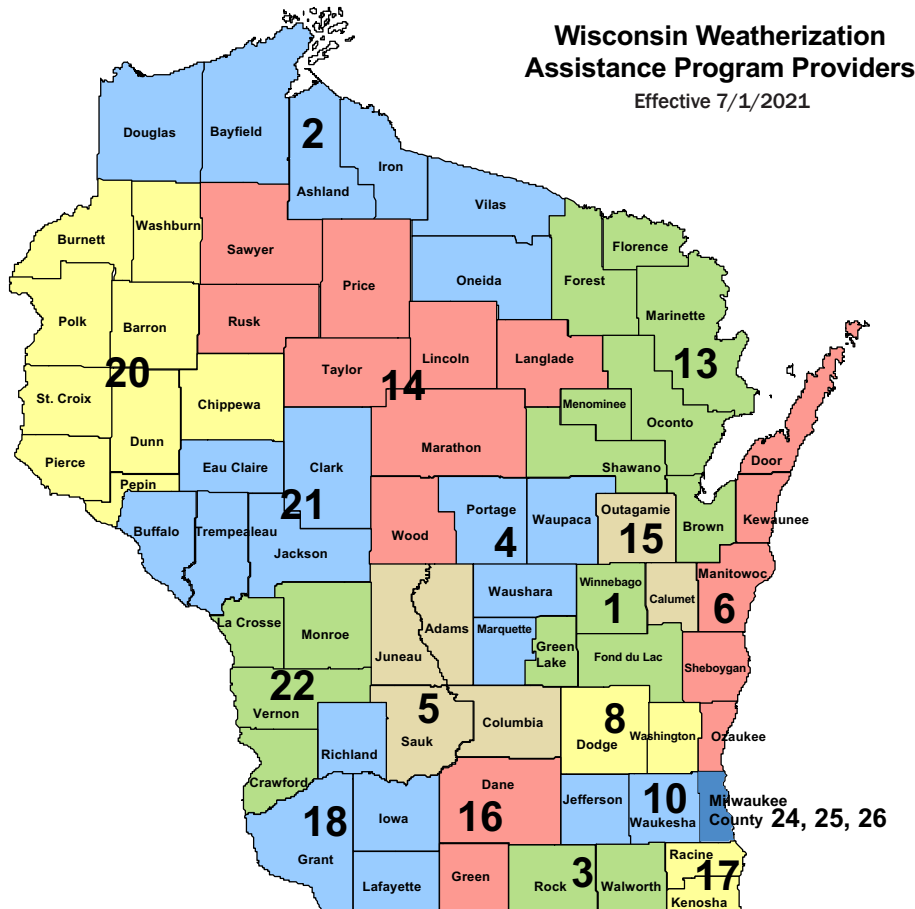


*“With the help from you we’ll be able to have a warmer house and be more comfortable and less stressed.”*

– Recipient of Home Energy Plus Assistance

<sup>1</sup> Assessment of Energy and Cost Savings for Homes Treated under Wisconsin’s Home Energy Plus Weatherization Program, 2022

<sup>2</sup> 1 to 4 unit buildings, all fuels



Weatherization Providers	
1	ADVOCAP
2	Ashland County Housing Authority
3	Community Action of Rock/Walworth
4	CAP Services, Inc.
5	Central Wisconsin CAC
6	Partners for Community Development
8	Hartford CDA
10	La Casa de Esperanza
13	Newcap, Inc.
14	North Central CAP, Inc.
15	Outagamie CHA
16	Project Home, Inc.
17	Racine/Kenosha CAA
18	Southwestern Wisconsin CAP
20	West Central Wisconsin CAP
21	Western Dairyland
22	Couleecap, Inc.
24	La Casa de Esperanza
25	Social Development Commission
26	Partners for Community Development



Home Energy Plus is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources through a network of county agencies, tribal governments, community-based organizations and utilities. The Home Energy Plus (HE+) Program consists of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP), which provides heating and electric assistance to eligible households, the HE+ Furnace Program, which provides replacement or repair of furnaces, and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), which offers energy efficiency improvements to help eligible customers save energy and money.



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