



**Wisconsin Department of Administration
Division of Energy, Housing and
Community Resources Program Guide**



WI Department of Administration – Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources (DEHCR)

DEHCR offers a broad range of programs to increase affordable housing opportunities, address homelessness, and provide housing for persons with special needs. In addition, the Division operates the statewide program to assist eligible households by providing electric and heating bill payment assistance, as well as benefits and services to assist with energy crisis situations. Eligible households may also receive weatherization services.

The Division also develops housing policy and provides funds to local governments and service providers, tribes, non-profit agencies, housing authorities and developers for public infrastructure and economic development opportunities.

Federal annual resources include:

- U.S. Department of Energy Technical Assistance
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA)
- Projects for Assistance in the Transition from Homelessness (PATH)
- SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access & Recovery (SOAR)
- Shelter Plus Care

State annual resources include:

- Public Benefits Energy Assistance Program
- Housing Cost Reduction Initiative Program (HCRI)
- State Shelter Subsidy Grants (SSSG)
- Transitional Housing Program (THP)
- Homeless Prevention Program (HPP)
- Critical Assistance (CA)

For more information about programs and services visit our divisional websites at:

<http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Energy-Services/ProgramsResources-and-Services>

and

<http://www.doa.state.wi.us/divisions/housing>

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Federal emergency and economic stimulus resources include:

- Flood & Disaster Recovery Assistance
- Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)

DEHCR programs provide maximum flexibility for local initiatives that benefit Wisconsin's low-and moderate-income households. Working with local partners, the Division supports activities that:

- Improve and expand the quality and availability of affordable housing.
- Redevelop and rehabilitate foreclosed and abandoned residential properties
- Assist with repairs, restoration or mitigation measures necessitated by a disaster.
- Assist homebuyers
- Support emergency homeless shelters.
- Provide rental assistance and other support services for homeless persons.

Couleecap's affordable single-family home was constructed on county owned land in the La Crosse area using a land trust model.



- Prevent and reduce incidence of homelessness experienced by persons with special needs
- Improve public infrastructure needed to support quality services and economic development
- Assist with economic development efforts targeted to low- and moderate-income households.
- Assist low-income households in meeting their heating and electric needs.
- Reduce energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety.

Division Programs

The Consolidated Plan guides the distribution of federal and state dollars for a variety of housing, community and economic development programs. The state's 5-year expenditure plan encompasses four HUD-funded formula programs and four state-funded programs that are targeted to assist low- and moderate-income Wisconsin residents. The HUD funded programs include the Community Development Block Grant Program – Small Cities, HOME Investment Partnership Program, Emergency Shelter Grants, and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids program. The state-funded programs include the Transitional Housing Program, State Shelter Subsidy Grant Program, Housing Cost Reduction Initiative, and the Homeless Prevention Program.

CDBG: Community Development:

CDBG-Public Facilities funds help support infrastructure and facility projects for communities. Some examples of eligible projects include improvements, repairs, or expansions of streets, drainage systems, water and sewer systems, sidewalks, and community centers.



CDBG-Economic Development funds assist businesses to create or retain jobs for individuals with low and moderate incomes. Examples of eligible projects include: business loans to expand facilities or purchase equipment, specialized employee training, or business infrastructure projects.

Wisconsin Weatherization Assistance Program (WisWAP)

- 6,343 housing units weatherized
- 66 rental units constructed/improved
- 803 owner occupied dwellings rehabilitated
- 132 homebuyers assisted
- 453 units made lead safe

Homelessness Addressed

- 23,968 homeless persons sheltered or assisted
- 354 homeless households rapidly re-housed
- Outreach to 2,189 homeless persons with mental illness
- Case management & services to 2,280 homeless persons with mental illness

Neighborhood Stabilization

- Acquisition/rehab/resale – 3 units

Services & Technical Assistance

- Hundreds of hours of assistance provided to households with housing needs
- Annual housing plan written and scores of project applications certified
- Supported 185 provider agencies within our homeless management information system

Disaster Recovery Efforts

- 25 housing units rehabilitated
- 27 housing buyouts
- 3 public facilities replaced
- 4,280 feet of roads/sewers constructed

HOPWA

- 103 households provided direct housing assistance
- 176 persons provided supportive services

CDBG-Public Facilities for Economic Development grant funds are awarded to local governments for public infrastructure projects that support business expansion or retention. Examples of eligible applications include: new or improved water & sewer service and streets that result in business expansion and job opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals.

CDBG-Planning funds support community efforts to address improving community opportunities and vitality. Some examples of eligible projects include the development of comprehensive plans, community development plans, and small area and neighborhood plans.

CDBG – Emergency Assistance and federal Disaster Recovery Funds assist communities that have experienced a natural or manmade disaster to repair and replace housing and public infrastructure.

CDBG – Housing grants to county governments to help low-and moderate-income families with housing repairs and homebuyer assistance.

ESG/THP/HPP grants are used for emergency shelters for the homeless, including victims of domestic violence and unaccompanied youth. Funds also target eviction prevention, rapid re-housing and transitional housing assistance.

HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance grants to non-profit organizations providing rental assistance, in conjunction with local support services, to assist homeless persons or persons with disabilities.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) addresses the housing needs of persons with AIDS or related diseases and their families.

Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) administers the LIHEAP and Public Benefits Energy Assistance Program. LIHEAP and its related services help approximately 230,000 Wisconsin households annually. Services include: heating and electric assistance, emergency fuel assistance, counseling for energy conservation and energy budgets, proactive copayment plans, targeted outreach services, emergency furnace repair and replacement.

Wisconsin Weatherization Assistance Program (WisWAP) uses energy conservation techniques to reduce the cost of home energy. Correcting health and safety hazards and potentially life-threatening conditions is the first consideration in WAP activities.

Division Housing Programs Statistics (April 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015)

The Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources distributes millions of dollars to local partners around the state improving housing, expanding affordable housing opportunities and aiding homeless persons.

Public Facility of Infrastructure Improvement

- 61,292 low- and moderate-income persons benefited from projects

Economic Development

- 551 jobs either created or retained



The CDBG Emergency Assistance Program aids communities that have experienced a natural or manmade disaster.

Affordable Housing

- 132 homebuyers received direct financial assistance
- 66 rental units constructed/improved
- 803 owner occupied dwellings rehabilitated
- 132 homebuyers assisted
- 453 units made lead safe

Wisconsin Fresh Start

- Approximately 200 at risk youth enrolled at 13 sites
- Approximately 13 housing units constructed

Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)

- 216, 418 households received energy assistance
- 56,852 households received crisis assistance
- 4,036 home heating units repaired or replaced