

- The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded block grant administered by the Iowa Department of Human Rights/Division of Community Action Agencies. **(Attachment A)**
- In Iowa, a household's income must be at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to be eligible. **(Attachment B)**
- Approximately 2/3 of the states are at 150% FPL with the rest either being lower or higher. **(Attachment C)** As seen in Attachment C, *Iowa has one of the highest participation rates in the country.*
- Federal law limits the allowable administrative costs to 10% of the grant. *Iowa has one of the lowest administrative costs in the country.* **(Attachment D)**
- States may transfer up to 15% of their grant to the Weatherization Program (WX). A state may also apply for a waiver and transfer up to 25% of their grant to WX. Last year our WX transfer totaled 10.6%. **(Attachment E)**
- Attachment E shows how all our funds were used for 2006. Regular client payments totaled over \$42 million. ECIP stands for Energy Crisis Intervention Payments. We spend 5% of grant on this component. It includes emergency repair/replacement of furnaces, temporary shelter, emergency delivery of fuel, emergency reconnect, and after April 15th emergency cooling when medically necessary.
- The final component is what we refer to as Summer Fill. We prepurchase propane in the summer for use in the winter.
- Targeting: The LIHEAP statute requires LIHEAP grantees to provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of assistance will be furnished to those households that have the lowest incomes and the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size. The LIHEAP statute identifies the following two groups of low-income households as having the highest home energy needs: vulnerable households and high energy burden households. Vulnerable households are those households with at least one member that is a young child, an individual with disabilities, or a frail older individual. High energy burden households are those households with the lowest incomes and highest home energy costs. **(Attachment F)**
- Collaboration/Advocacy Efforts: 1.) During the winter of 2000/2001, we filed a petition for emergency rulemaking to increase the standard utility allowance for purposes of calculating food stamp benefits with the Dept. of Human Services. This resulted in an additional \$5.5 million dollars in food assistance for low income Iowans that year. Since that time, DHS has updated this annually. 2.) In collaboration with the Iowa Utilities Board and Iowa's phone carriers, we have incorporated the Lifeline application into our LIHEAP application. Prior to 2003, the phone carriers had signed up less than 20,000 households. Since 2003, we have signed up 94,783 households whose average yearly discount of \$90 equals \$8.5 million dollars that was leaving the state and now comes back in the form of a discount. 3.) In December of 2005, we filed a petition for rulemaking regarding prior authorization of disconnection of energy service where disconnection poses a health or safety threat to households with children with the Dept. of Public Health. Although that petition was dismissed on jurisdictional grounds, we are currently collaborating with Public Health on the non-jurisdictional relief sought in the petition.
- 2006 Facts & Figures **(Attachment G)**
- Moratorium Report **(Attachment H)**
- 2007 Fiscal Outlook (Jerry McKim's comments to Interim Study Committee, 10/11/06)