

The Cincinnati HERALD®

A2 | Apr. 10, 2010 - Apr. 16, 2010

— NEWS BRIEFS —

Weatherization works for low-income Ohioans

Ohio leads the nation in using stimulus money to weatherize homes. The Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency (CAA) proudly administers the weatherization program serving families in Hamilton County. Stimulus funding has made it possible for CAA to serve more people just when they need it most.

"Weatherization offers so many benefits to our community," said Gwen L. Robinson, CAA President & CEO. "In addition to lowering the customer's utility bills, the program puts people to work, reduces overall energy consumption, and makes the entire community more self-sufficient."

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, also known as the stimulus, Ohio's weatherization programs received an unprecedented \$267 million dollars. CAA will weatherize almost 1,400 homes here in Hamilton County with the stimulus funds it received.

"Weatherization saves people money," Ed Jackson, CAA's Weatherization Director, said. "It makes their homes more comfortable and, in some cases, makes it possible for them to pay other bills and stay in their homes."

Nationwide, weatherization saves customers an average of \$350 a year on their energy bills and reduces households' annual gas consumption by 32 percent, according to the Department of Energy. Through weatherization stimulus funds, CAA created over 60 new jobs in the Greater Cincinnati area and invested over \$800,000 into the state and local economies through the purchase of new equipment, vehicles, and supplies.

"We have an experienced network of providers and professional, compassionate employees who meet high standards," Robinson said.

For more information, visit www.cincy-caa.org or call 569-1840.