

# PRIORITIZING SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

## Strong and Vibrant Communities

### Weatherization Plus

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- **WHAT:** As part of the Governor’s Climate Change Mitigation Package, the Administration is proposing to dramatically expand weatherization of low- and moderate-income homes – weatherizing 8,000 additional low- and moderate-income homes between 2022 and 2026, scaling up the capacity of these programs to near-double current levels and bringing the projected total number of units weatherized during this period to 18,000.
- **WHY:** Investments in Vermont’s homes – both owner-occupied and rental properties – will help achieve Vermont’s climate goals. Beyond reduced GHG emissions, weatherization delivers multiple benefits for residents: lower monthly energy bills; improved housing affordability; enhanced home comfort; boosted health outcomes; improved resilience during temporary energy disruptions; reduced building maintenance cost; and, for homeowners, increased home value. Weatherization also provides immediate cost savings to residents and improves the effectiveness of other energy improvements.
- **WHO:** Vermont homeowners and tenants with low or moderate incomes will receive direct financial support and incentives to make home weatherization more affordable.
- **HOW:** Vermont homeowners and tenants with low incomes will be eligible for no-cost, comprehensive home weatherization services through Vermont’s Home Weatherization Assistance Program administered by DCF’s Office of Economic Opportunity and delivered through six Weatherization Assistance Providers. And weatherization of buildings with 5 or more units will be delivered through 3E Thermal. In addition, the Home Weatherization Assistance Program will continue to leverage funding available through LIHEAP, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and Fuel Tax revenue, as well as an expected boost in DOE funds through federal infrastructure package in funding weatherization services. (\$45 million)

Vermonters with a moderate income will be eligible to receive incentives through Efficiency Vermont and its network of contractors to support the cost of home weatherization. Coordination with Vermont Housing Finance Agency will help leverage this funding further. (\$35 million)

- **FUNDING:** \$80 million is included in the Governor’s FY23 recommended ARPA budget.

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