NEWS & INFORMATION

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Submit applications to IUB for Iowa Weatherization Challenge matching grants

The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) is receiving proposals for matching grant funds of up to $500 in assistance for qualified Iowa community groups planning energy-saving projects as part of the Iowa Weatherization Challenge (IWC). Grant application forms, along with requirements and instructions, are now available at www.state.ia.us/iub. Applications should be submitted by September 15, 2006.

Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack initiated the IWC last fall, and the IUB is leading this statewide effort into its second year. Like last year, participating groups or organizations are asked to raise funds in their local communities for their IWC events. However, this is the first year that matching grant money, to a total of at least $10,000, has been available. The grant money is earmarked for weatherization projects completed in Iowa by November 30, 2006. It is to be used for related weatherization and educational materials.

The IUB looks forward to working with local community organizations across Iowa to recruit volunteers and solicit donations to help weatherize homes for Iowa's low-income families, elderly, disabled individuals, and others needing assistance in their community. The IUB can assist community groups with their events by helping them secure local training in weatherization methods for volunteers, receive donated or favorably priced supplies, locate appropriate weatherization sites, and issue news releases and communicate with the media. Organizations interested in participating in the Iowa Weatherization Challenge may obtain a complete organizing kit from the IUB Web site. The IUB also offers Iowa Weatherization Challenge presentations to groups and organizations in their local communities. Those interested in this may contact Teresa McConnell of the IUB toll free, 1-877-565-4451.

Grant awards will be based on the merit of proposed projects and must meet requirements included on the grant application form. An IUB review committee will competitively judge applications.

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