



GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY

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GEFA Recognizes Top Performers in Weatherization Assistance Program Network *Nine Community Service Providers Meet and Exceed Cumulative Production Goals*

ATLANTA – The Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) announced today that nine agencies in Georgia's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) network are meeting and/or exceeding 100 percent of cumulative production goals, consistently providing timely, quality service to low-income families in need of weatherization services. The high-performing agencies include:

- Partnership for Community Action Inc. (Decatur)
- Concerted Services Inc. (Waycross)
- Concerted Services Inc. (Reidsville)
- West Central Ga. Community Action Council Inc. (Montezuma)
- Southwest Ga. Community Action Council Inc. (Moultrie)
- City of Albany (Albany)
- EOA for Savannah-Chatham County Area Inc. (Savannah)
- Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity Authority Inc. (Valdosta)
- North Georgia Community Action Inc. (Jasper)

"GEFA congratulates these agencies for the excellent work they are doing in the community helping families in need," said Kevin Clark, executive director for GEFA. "GEFA is committed to ensuring that families seeking weatherization assistance receive timely, quality services. The high-performance of these agencies speaks not only to the agencies' hard work and commitment, but to the training and support GEFA provides the weatherization network."

The WAP's mission is to reduce state and national consumption of energy while providing a safe, improved environment and enhanced quality of life for Georgia's income-eligible households. The Georgia WAP received \$124.5 million through the ARRA; \$99 million was given to 22 community service providers in the WAP network to weatherize homes for low-income families in need. The service providers include local community action agencies, city and county governments and other nonprofit organizations.

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Production goals were established for the service providers in December 2009 by GEFA based on a production schedule set by the U.S. Department of Energy. GEFA provides oversight of the program, its funding, technical assistance and training for the service providers. Southface Energy Institute trains WAP employees and contractors, and the University of Georgia's Cooperative Extension Service provides quality assurance monitoring. The training includes a series of basic and advanced/continued learning workshops conducted across Georgia, and incorporates audio/visual materials, product displays and hands-on experience in learning labs and in the field.

GEFA has also provided funding and support to Southface's SWEET Center, which officially opened in October. The SWEET Center trains workers in Georgia and throughout the Southeast to install insulation, seal ducts, air sealing and other weatherization techniques.

Nationwide, the WAP has weatherized more than 200,000 homes, which are now not only more energy efficient, but save weatherization clients money on their utility bills. In Georgia, 6,044 homes have been weatherized through November 2010.

Citizens interested in receiving weatherization services for their homes should contact their local service provider. A list of service providers and more information on the weatherization program are available at www.gefa.org.

About the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (www.gefa.org)

The [Georgia Environmental Finance Authority](http://www.gefa.org) (GEFA) provides energy, land and water resources resulting in an improved quality of life for today and future generations. GEFA is the lead agency for state energy programs and is home to the Center of Innovation for Energy; directs the Georgia Land Conservation Program and maintains state-owned fuel storage tanks; and offers financing for reservoir and water supply, water quality, storm water and solid waste infrastructure. Since 1985, GEFA has approved financial commitments totaling more than \$3 billion to local governments, businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more information, visit www.gefa.org.

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