

Serving Low-income Oregonians with Energy-saving Solutions



### **Outline**

- Low-income energy programs in Oregon
- Energy Trust initiatives serving low- to moderate-income customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista
- Co-funding projects with community partners
  - Case study with Community Action Organization of Washington County
- Looking forward to 2021

### Low-income Energy Programs in Oregon

# Oregon Housing and Community Services

#### **Weatherization**

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) weatherization
- US DOE Weatherization Assistance Program
- Energy Conservation Helping Oregonians (ECHO)
- Oregon Multi-Family Energy Program (OR-MEP)
- Bonneville Power Administration Low-income Energy Efficiency Program
- State Home Oil Weatherization (SHOW)

#### **Energy Assistance**

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP)
- CARES Act LIHEAP Supplemental Program
- Energy Assistance Coronavirus Relief Fund

#### **Utility ratepayer funded**

- NW Natural
  - Oregon Low Income Gas Assistance (OLGA)
  - Oregon Low-income Energy Efficiency (OLIEE)
- Cascade Natural Gas
  - Oregon Low Income Bill Assistance (OLIBA)
  - Oregon Low Income Energy Conservation (OLIEC)
- Avista
  - Oregon Low Income Rate Assistance Program (LIRAP)
  - Oregon Low Income Energy Efficiency Program (AOLIEE)
- Idaho Power
  - Project Share (Billing Assistance)
  - Weatherization Assistance Program

#### **Community Action Agencies**

- Delivery program services leveraging weatherization and energy assistance funding
- ~17 jurisdictions across the state

# **Energy Trust's Role**

#### Objective

- Deliver benefits to all utility customers while acquiring cost-effective energy efficiency
- Serve low-income customers in support of our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion objectives
  - Including through the Residential program, Solar program and multifamily initiatives
- Remain a resource to OPUC and stakeholders looking to help customers with high energy burdens and/or impacted by COVID-19

#### Approach

- Support existing low-income programs to achieve greater levels of energy efficiency
- Partner with entities directly serving low-income customers

### Key Strategies

- Targeted incentives and outreach
  - No- and low-cost offers
  - Modified eligibility requirements
  - Increased incentives, bonuses

- Coordination and partnerships
  - State agencies
  - Local service providers
  - Community-based organizations
  - Utilities

# Energy Trust Residential Initiatives Serving Low- to Moderate-Income Customers

- Low- and no-cost services
  - Free LED bulb distribution
  - Energy saver kits
  - Smart thermostats
- Savings Within Reach enhanced incentives and financing
- Single-family rental enhanced incentives
- Fixed price promotions
  - Heat pumps and ductless heat pumps in manufactured homes
  - Region-specific promotions
- Manufactured homes free services
- Manufactured homes replacement pilot
- Community Partner Funding
  - Audits and highest incentive levels

# Savings Within Reach

- Enhanced incentives for HVAC, weatherization and water heating
- On Bill Repayment financing
- Targets moderate-income customers
- Temporary eligibility for COVID-employment constraints

Household size	Gross annual income minimum	Gross annual income maximum
1 resident	\$25,520	\$51,966
2 residents	\$34,480	\$67,955
3 residents	\$43,440	\$83,945
4 residents	\$52,400	\$99,934
5 residents	\$61,360	\$115,922
6 residents	\$70,320	\$131,912
7 residents	\$79,280	\$134,910
8 residents	\$88,240	\$137,909

### Single-family Rental Properties

- Enhanced incentives for HVAC, weatherization and water heating measures
- Deliver benefits to renters
- Ductless heat pump promotion
- Gas furnace promotion in development

# Savings Within Reach (OR) / Rental Incentives (OR/WA)

Energy Improvement	Oregon Incentive	Washington Incentive
Ductless heat pump	\$1,000	N/A
Ducted heat pump	\$1,000	N/A
Extended capacity heat pump	\$1,650	N/A
Gas furnace	<del>\$550</del> \$1,000*	<del>\$550</del> \$1,000*
Heat pump water heater	\$270	N/A
Gas tankless water heater	N/A	<del>\$200</del> \$400
Smart thermostat	\$100	\$100
Attic insulation	<del>\$0.50</del> \$1.25* per square foot	\$0.50 \$1.25* per square foot
Wall insulation	\$0.50 per square foot	<del>\$0.60</del> \$0.75 per square foot
Floor insulation	\$0.40 per square foot	<del>\$0.60</del> \$0.75 per square foot

<sup>\*</sup>Denotes bonus incentive, which expires on March 31, 2021

### **Fixed Price Promotions**

- Solicit competitive pricing through trade ally Request for Qualifications
  - Prioritize most cost-effective installations
- Enhanced incentives

Promotion	Total Average Cost	Energy Trust Incentive	Average Remaining Cost
Manufactured Homes: Ducted Heat Pump	\$4,932	\$3,000	\$1,932
Manufactured Homes: Ductless Heat Pump	\$4,050	\$2,500	\$2,050
Rentals: Ductless Heat Pump	\$4,050	\$1,750-\$2,000	\$2,050-\$2,300

### **Energy Trust Co-funding Priorities**

- Newest program offer designed to partner with existing community organizations to serve customers
- Contribute maximum funding at cost effective levels
- Prioritize lagging customer groups

### Co-funding Case Study

- Worked with OPUC, PGE, Pacific Power, OHCS, Community Action Partnership of Oregon and community action agencies
- OPUC approved attribution, reporting and cost-effectiveness methodology (June 2019)
- Pilot with Community Action Organization of Washington County (CAO)



### Co-funding Case Study: Budget and Targets

Goal: To serve more low-income customers and/or acquire more savings at each site

- Achieve 22% increase in eligible measure installations and/or
- Achieve 22% increase in kWh savings from baseline

	Measures Installed	kWh*	Total Program Funds
Baseline (CAO Volume 2017/2018)	177	396,805	\$1,639,321
CAO Budget 2019/2020 Program Year, without co-funding	146	327,617	\$1,353,486
Energy Trust Additionality Goals	32	72,076	\$300,000
Total CAO & Energy Trust 2019/2020 Goals	178	399,693	\$1,653,486

<sup>\*</sup>using Energy Trust savings calculations, agency-reported savings are different

### Co-funding Case Study: Results

- Served 88 homes
- Exceeded savings goal
- Installed more HVAC systems and fewer insulation projects than expected

Energy Trust Co-funding Metrics	'19/'20 Measure Goals	Results	Percent to Goal
Total Sites Served by Energy Trust	N/A	88	N/A
Total Incentives	\$300,000	\$301,449	100.5%
<b>Total Core Measures</b>	146	192	132%
Total Reportable kWh Savings*	327,617	421,259	129%

<sup>\*</sup>using Energy Trust savings calculations, agency-reported savings are different

### **Community Partner Funding**

- Co-funding Case Study created an infrastructure to position funding as a point of leverage for other community organizations
- Community Partner Funding pathway designed to partner with other community organizations (community-based organizations) to leverage with additional funding sources to serve customers
- Contribute maximum funding at cost-effective levels
- Prioritize lagging customer groups

# Community Partner Funding – Incentive Levels

Energy Improvement	Primary Heating Fuel	Incentive
	Electric Zonal - CAAs	\$2,000
Ductless Heat Pump	Electric Zonal – CBOs	\$2,900
	Electric Forced Air Furnace – CAAs	\$2,800
	Electric Forced Air Furnace – CBOs	\$3,350
Ducted Heat Pump	Electric	\$3,000
New & Existing Heat Pump Controls	Electric	\$250
High Efficiency Gas Furnace	Gas	\$1,000
Smart Thermostat Direct Install	Electric or gas	\$150
Heat Pump Water Heater	Electric (water heat)	\$498
Home Energy Assessment	Electric or gas	\$250 per site

Energy Improvement	Primary Heating Fuel	Incentive
Attic Insulation	Electric	\$1.25 per square foot
	Gas	\$1.25 per square foot
Wall Insulation	Electric	\$1.50 per square foot
	Gas	\$0.95 per square foot
Floor Insulation	Electric	\$1.00 per square foot
	Gas	\$0.70 per square foot
Windows	Electric	\$15.00 per square foot
	Gas	\$8.00 per square foot
Windows	Electric	\$8.00 per square foot
	Gas	\$4.00 per square foot
Windows	Electric	\$4.00 per square foot
	Gas	\$2.00 per square foot

### Looking Forward: 2021 Actions

### 2021 Residential program budget for low-income initiatives\*

#### Continue

- Low- and no-cost services
- · Savings Within Reach enhanced incentives and financing
- Single-family rental enhanced incentives
- Fixed price promotions
- Manufactured homes replacement pilot
- Marketing support
  - Prioritize do-it-yourself solutions to customers
  - Support for CBOs and trade allies participating in low- to-moderate income initiatives

#### Expand

- Manufactured homes free services through a redesigned approach
- Co-funding with community action agencies, building on the successful pilot with CAO and potentially entering into agreements with up to 5 agencies
- Community Partner Funding pathway to more CBOs, this pathway continues to be relatively new and staff still assessing demand and effectiveness in 2021

#### Participate in OPUC proceedings

- COVID-19 consumer protections docket (UM 2114)
- Executive Order 20-04 work plans on Utility Services and Impacted Communities

#### Be a resource

 Remain flexible and solutions-oriented in an uncertain year given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on capacity at low-income agencies and CBOs, and the health and financial wellbeing of customers

\*budget not yet approved by board; board consideration of final proposed budget is Dec. 11



### Thank You

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