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**Center for Planning Providing Application Assistance for Free Home
Weatherization to Scotlanville Residents**

Baton Rouge, La. – The Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX), with support from District 2 Councilwoman Chauna Banks, is hosting a Weatherization Application Assistance event to assist eligible Scotlandville residents with applications for free home weatherization. In preparation for the Weatherization Application Assistance Event, there will be a Weatherization Informational Session to provide information on program eligibility, the application process and requirements, and what to expect if your home is weatherized.

Optional Weatherization Informational Session Event Details:

June 1, 2023 · 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Jewel J. Newman Community Center
2013 Central Rd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

Weatherization Application Assistance Event Details:

June 10, 2023 · 9 AM - 1 PM
Jewel J. Newman Community Center
2013 Central Rd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70807

Registration is required to attend the Weatherization Application Assistance event. Visit cpex.org/weatherization or call 318-282-8779 to register and for more information.

With funding support from the Huey and Angelina Wilson Foundation, CPEX is working with Scotlandville residents to raise awareness of the Weatherization program and to assist residents with submitting applications. CPEX will also host an Informational Session in preparation for the Weatherization Application Assistance Event. At the Weatherization Application Assistance Event, CPEX staff, representatives from the Louisiana Housing Corporation and weatherization service providers will review applications to ensure all necessary information is complete before submission, answer questions and collect applications. The goal of the Weatherization Assistance Program is to increase energy efficiency, reduce costs, and improve community health, safety, and comfort levels for Scotlandville residents. The Weatherization Assistance Program is free to those who qualify and saves qualified applicants an average of \$413 per year in energy costs (QuadArea.org).

Program and Event Goals

Louisiana Housing Corporation is proud to partner with Community Action Agencies and local governments to provide Weatherization services to residents

statewide. These services improve quality of life and reduce residents' energy bills, creating a lasting benefit for homeowners," said Joshua G. Hollins, Louisiana Housing Corporation Executive Director. "The Weatherization Program directly supports LHC's mission to provide safe, affordable, and energy-efficient housing. We applaud CPEX and the sponsors for seeing the tremendous value in this program and for promoting it in this area. We hope to see even more applicants and an overall improvement in the quality of housing as a result."

"We've been working with the Scotlandville community for some time now and we continue to hear from the community that home weatherization is a priority," said **Lyneisha Jackson**, Community Planner at the Center for Planning Excellence. "This will be our fourth weatherization event in the Scotlandville community. Last year, we assisted 196 residents in submitting applications to have their homes weatherized. Based on the success of last year's weatherization events, we know there is still a significant need, and we are grateful to the Huey and Angelina Wilson Foundation for providing support and the Louisiana Housing Corporation for partnering with us to help residents participate in this program. Through this program, residents' homes become more energy efficient, which also improves overall health, with the added benefit of helping put cash back in pockets by reducing energy costs."

District 2 Councilwoman Chauna Banks stated, "We are excited to be able to help more residents participate in this program that was specifically designed to benefit communities like ours. All people deserve quality affordable housing, and the Weatherization Assistance Program will help many improve their immediate living conditions as well as increase the value of their homes and create room in household budgets for other essentials."

What is home weatherization?

Home weatherization improves heating and cooling efficiency, thereby reducing energy costs and improving the comfort level, air quality, health and safety of household members. Typical weatherization measures include but are not limited to: installing insulation in walls and attics; reducing air infiltration and pressure imbalances; sealing and repairing ductwork; and tuning and repairing heating and cooling units.

Benefits of home weatherization:

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, cost-effective efficiency improvements can reduce energy consumption in low-income households by 13% to 31%. Lower-income households tend to carry a larger burden of energy costs, typically spending 13.9% of total annual income, compared to 3% for non-low-income households. Implementing energy efficiency measures can help reduce high energy burdens for households, freeing up money for other vital budget items.

About the Center for Planning Excellence

The nonprofit Center for Planning Excellence (CPEX) brings people, culture, and planning together to make great communities happen. CPEX coordinates urban, rural and regional planning efforts in Louisiana, by working to create great neighborhoods and quality places; transportation choices; healthy, resilient, and equitable communities; and promoting civic engagement and education. More information is available at cpep.org.