PART I - FACE SHEET

APPLICATION FOR FE	DERAL A	1. TYPE OF SUBMISS			
Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev.02/07 to conf	ration's eGrants Syster	m)	Application X Non-Construction		
2a. DATE SUBMITTED TO CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS):	3. DATE RECEN	VED BY STATE:		STATE APPLICATION	IDENTIFIER:
2b. APPLICATION ID: 4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AG			INCY:	FEDERAL IDENTIFIER:	
11AC122961			09ACHWI0010012		
5. APPLICATION INFORMATION					
LEGAL NAME: Partners for Community Development DUNS NUMBER: 089853519 ADDRESS (give street address, city, state, zip code and county): 1407 South 13th Street Sheboygan WI 53081 - 5247 County: Sheboygan			NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DIRECTOR OR OTHER PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION (give area codes): NAME: Lucio Fuentez TELEPHONE NUMBER: (920) 459-2788 FAX NUMBER: (920) 459-2782 INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: lucio@partners4cd.com		
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN): 391216413			7. TYPE OF APPLICANT: 7a. Non-Profit 7b. Community-Based Organization		
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION (Check appropriate box). X NEW NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE CONTINUATION AMENDMENT If Amendment, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es): A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION C. NO COST EXTENSION D. OTHER (specify below):					
			9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service		
10a. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 94.006 10b. TITLE: AmeriCorps State			11.a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT: Partners Energy Conservation Corps 11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):		
 AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (List Cities, Counties, States, etc): This program affects the Wisconsin counties of Sheboygan, Manitow oc, and Ozaukee. 					
13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: 09/01/11 END DATE: 08/31/12			14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF: a.Applicant WI 006 b.Program WI 006		
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Year #: 1			16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?		
a. FEDERAL	\$ 10 1,000.00		YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON:		
b. APPLICANT c. STATE	\$ 178,428.00				
d. LOCAL	\$ 0.00 \$ 0.00			DATE: ROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372	
e. OTHER \$ 0.00					
f. PROGRAM INCOME	\$ 0.00		17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? YES if "Yes," attach an explanation. X NO		
g. TOTAL \$ 282,428.00					
a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTA Jose Araujo	b. TITLE:			c. TELEPHONE NUMBER: (920) 459-2780 107	
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:					e. DATE SIGNED: 07/19/11

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Executive Summary

Partners for Community Development has managed a low income Weatherization Assistance

Program since 1979. Partners has used AmeriCorps funding for Weatherization in the Wisconsin

counties of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Ozaukee since 2009. Last year Partners was granted funds to

recruit and train qualified full time AmeriCorps Members in providing Energy Conservation Services

in our service areas. This curriculum is very successful in retrofitting houses and training for

conservation jobs in our communities, and Partners plans to continue this program in the future.

Rationale and Approach

PROBLEM AND SOLUTION

Partners for Community Development has seen an increasing need for low income weatherization assistance in our service communities of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Ozaukee counties. Working with the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program Partners identifies low income families who can benefit from the weatherization of their residence in order to reduce heating costs in the winter and cooling costs in the summer. These families include minorities, displaced working families, the elderly and disabled, and families with young children that live below 200% of the federal poverty level. In addition, the request for those qualifying for Home Energy Assistance in our service area has increased by 23% from the previous year, reinforcing the dire need for weatherization services in our community. It is the intention of Partners for Community Development to train economically disadvantaged individuals in our communities as Energy Conservation Technicians, who would learn the master skills through intensive training in orderto find gainful employment in the green Energy Services field.

Information presented by the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program in 2010 shows that 9,160 individuals applied for and received energy assistance in the counties of Sheboygan (4,748), Manitowoc (2,914) and Ozaukee (1,498) for the 2009 -- 2010 heating season. (Source: Wisconsin

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Home Energy Assistance Program Fiscal Year 2010 Year End Report).

A report generated by the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program referral database shows 4,689 households in Partners' service area (Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Ozaukee County) for the 2009 -- 2010 heating season which receive Energy Assistance and had not previously been weatherized, thus would be eligible for weatherization services. This is a 14% increase from the previous year in the number of families who have applied for Home Energy Assistance and live in homes that have never been weatherized. Unfortunately, for the 2009 -- 2010 fiscal year Partners for Community Development's funding only allowed the agency to provide weatherization services to 578 of those households.

For the 2010 -- 2011 heating season Partners expects these numbers will continue to increase for our service areas as the unemployment rates for Sheboygan (7.7%), Manitowoc (7.9%), and Ozaukee (6.6%) counties remains on par with the current Wisconsin State Unemployment average (7.7%). The forecast for future unemployment rates in the Sheboygan and surrounding counties shows little change in the number of available jobs in the coming year, making the need for Home Energy Assistance and Weatherization services even more critical to the community. (Source: Wisconsin Metropolitan Area Economic Outlook of Revenue Division of Research, and the United Way August 2010 Unadjusted Unemployment Rate by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area).

SOLUTION: AMERICORPS MEMBERS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Partners for Community Development will enroll eight (8) Full Time AmeriCorps Members to train and participate as Partners Energy Conservation Corps members. In addition to receiving training from our certified weatherization staff, AmeriCorps Members experience hands-on training within the

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agency in order to increase the number of low income dwellings which receive weatherization services. These AmeriCorps Members learn how to properly implement energy conservation measures in homes by providing free of charge services to low income individuals who qualify for Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance. These AmeriCorps members to be recruited must qualify as economically disadvantaged individuals in order to receive this job training and other skill development services (Opportunity Focus Area, Measure O2).

Each of the households that benefit from the program see a dramatic reduction in their energy consumption, allowing them to allocate their financial resources towards other necessities such as health care or food. According to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin, 49% of their clients have had to choose between paying for food and paying for utilities or heating fuel, and 31% have had to choose between paying for food and paying for medicine or medical care (Source: Second Harvest Foodbank of Southeastern Wisconsin Annual Report for 2009).

Partners Energy Conservation Corps' eight (8) Full Time AmeriCorps Members are to provide 13,600 hours of service to their community and implement energy conservation measures during their training, which are offered at no cost to the client. AmeriCorps Members are also required to participate in the recruitment and management of a staff of volunteers that provides information on low income weatherization in our service areas. AmeriCorps Members are also required to participate in all weatherization training activities, including a 5-day boot camp and certified training they'll need to effectively implement weatherization in the field. This training also gives them the skills they need to find employment in the Green Energy field in the future.

AMERICORPS MEMBER SELECTION, TRAINING & SUPERVISION

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Partners for Community Development works with several agencies in our service area to recruit

AmeriCorps Members for our programs. Partners works extensively with the Wisconsin Job Center to
enroll for displaced/unemployed workers, as well as working with the local Hispanic and Hmong

Associations to populate our AmeriCorps member ranks and ensuring a diverse member population.

In addition, Partners also works with local construction, factory and other blue collar businesses to
find people recently laid off and in search of work. Requirements for participation include a high
school diploma or GED, passing an extensive background check, and have the basic hands-on skills
needed to perform weatherization services. Local advertising with the above organizations ensures
that AmeriCorps Members are recruited only from our service area.

Also, Partners for Community Development has outreached to the local high schools of Sheboygan North and South High. Each school administers a construction training program through which students from economically disadvantaged families learn basic principles of building science as well as other valuable home construction skills. Many of the individuals who participate in this construction program have been outreached, mentored or other ways served by our current AmeriCorps Members; thus they are familiar with our program and the advantages and pride involved with serving as an AmeriCorps Member.

Partners presents AmeriCorps Members with the opportunity to learn about implementing energy saving measures while reducing energy related expenses for low income individuals, improving the housing stock while creating the basis for a possible career in the Energy Conservation field. All newly recruited AmeriCorps Members participate in approximately 100 hours of Energy Conservation before they continue their training by implementing weatherization and retrofitting measures in our client's homes in the field. Each day of their service terms members are exposed to and learn the "tricks of the

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trade" from experienced foreman and supervisors.

Selected AmeriCorps Members who are part of Partners' Energy Conservation Corps participate in a one week boot camp at the beginning of their term of service, where they are introduced to the weatherization techniques they'll be using during their term of service. This boot camp is sponsored by the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation (WECC), a national leader in the design and implementation of award-winning energy savings programs for utilities, municipalities and regulators across the U.S. and Canada. This WECC sponsored course group includes both classroom and field experience, and focuses on the hands-on skills needed to effectively weatherize homes. In addition, AmeriCorps Members participate in lead-safe training, OSHA Safety, CPR, and Citizenship Training which can be of great benefit to them after their term of service has ended. Many home renovation activities like sanding, cutting, and demolition can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, and the safety training helps protect against the risk of lead poisoning to adults and children.

By providing this public service their communities the AmeriCorps Members also learn valuable employment skills in the Energy Conservation field, while implementing Energy-Efficient and Safety measures in the homes of low income individuals in their community. With the passing of the Green Jobs Act of 2007 the "green collar" job has become more prominent in the US. However, the State of Wisconsin is below the national average for Clean Energy jobs, which Partners is trying to aggressively address with our Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program and recruitment of AmeriCorps Members. (Source: Pew Charitable Trusts, 2009)

Partners for Community Development encourages all Clean Energy Corps members to pursue green

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collar careers upon the completion of their term of service. Common careers in the field of Energy Conservation Field include Weatherization Technician, Energy Auditor, Solar Panel Installer, and Wind Energy Technician. Serving as part of an Energy Conservation Corps exposes these AmeriCorps Members to new career paths, and an educational award is received by each member at the end of their service contract to help them pursue employment in this field.

During their training AmeriCorps Members receive instruction on the various tools and techniques utilized to maximize energy conservation. Members are trained in the use of advanced tools and equipment such as the Minneapolis Blower Door, infrared camera, and insulation blower; all used to utilized and accurately identify the correct sources of heat loss and energy waste. Following a diagnostic of the home AmeriCorps Members are instructed on techniques used to measure the improvement of energy efficiency in low income homes, and reduce energy consumption while increasing safety and comfort. Trained AmeriCorps Members focus on air sealing, weather stripping, installation of insulation, replacement of incandescent lights with compact fluorescent light bulbs, and the replacement of non-efficient combustion appliances. Through the training and usage of diagnostic equipment and the implementation of these measures the AmeriCorps Members are able to reduce energy consumption related expenses in the homes of the individuals we serve. It is estimated that these activities reduce the average annual energy costs by \$437 per household (Source: US Department of Energy, Weatherization & Intergovernmental Program). Residents of the dwelling may be either owners or renters and must certify their status through a Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program office.

Partners for Community Development, in collaboration with Lakeshore Technical College (LTC) has also developed and successfully implemented a two (2) day OSHA approved safety training

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curriculum. This part of the training for AmeriCorps Members includes classroom and field instruction in order to provide our AmeriCorps Members with the knowledge necessary to implement Engery Conservation measures in a manner safe to them and their clients. During their training through LTC, members are also exposed to several higher education opportunities in the energy conservation field, such as Wind Energy Technology, a program offered by LTC right here in our community. The members' knowledge in energy conservation measures continues to grow after this initial training as they work on the field and are coached by the Weatherization Trainer and the Program Director.

In addition to training directly related to Energy Conservation and Clean Energy all AmeriCorps Members are required to participate in Citizenship Training, which is implemented based on a Corporation Approved curriculum. This curriculum enlightens the members on the history of democracy in America, and encourages civic responsibility. Each member is reminded that the responsibility of a citizen consists of actions and attitudes associated with democratic governance and social participation. Civic responsibility can include participation in government, church, volunteerism and membership in voluntary associations. The Program Director encourages members to actively participate in their community, to develop civic responsibility, and presents them with opportunities for participation.

During their period of service, AmeriCorps Members are trained under direct supervision of the Partners' AmeriCorps Program Director and the Weatherization Director and Trainers. These supervisors are current full time members of the Partners' staff, and have received extensive training in weatherization techniques. Supervisors and trainers have also been trained in Lead Safe Work practices, are certified Energy Auditors, and attend bi-monthly meetings from the Wisconsin Energy

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Conservation Corporation (WECC) where they are instructed on ethics and management skills.

AmeriCorps members are continuously supervised by Partners staff to ensure adequate support and

guidance through their term of service.

In order to ensure 100% retention in the Partners Energy Conservation Corps program, Partners also

offers the opportunity to learn energy conservation techniques combined with the pride and sense of

ownership which comes with improving one self and one's community. The Partners' management

staff provides close training and supervision to the members ensuring any and all work and personal

related issues are addressed promptly and properly. Our AmeriCorps Members are also offered

educational awards and encouraged to utilize them in a field related to energy conservation. For the

last completed AmeriCorps Funding Cycle, Partners achieved 100% recruitment and retention. In the

current 2010-2011 Formula Funding program 100% recruitment has been achieved, and thus far

retention is also at 100%. For the last completed AmeriCorps Funding Cycle for 2009-2010 Recovery

program, Partners had 100% of AmeriCorps Members successfully graduated from the Citizenship

Training program and demonstrated a desire to be involved in their communities beyond their terms

of service.

OUTCOME: PERFORMANCE MEASURES

AmeriCorps Members who participate in Partners' Energy Conservation Corps gain valuable skills in

weatherization which can be used to find employment in the private sectors. There is are 21 other

Weatherization and Energy Conservation and related agencies in the State of Wisconsin, and this

number continues to grow every year as the need for weatherization and "green" careers continues to

increase. With the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act \$5 billion dollars

has been given to the Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program with goal of

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weatherizing 1 million homes a year nationwide. This reinforces the need for individuals trained in weatherization techniques more important than ever. Partners Energy Conservation Corps members receive intensive training in the Energy Conservation Retrofit field. This training, coupled with classroom and hands-on education, provides economical disadvantaged individuals with the critical skills they need to obtain gainful employment in this green collar market.

Partners for Community Development also measures the annual energy usage reduction for housing units and structures benefiting from our weatherization and retrofitting programs. The expected yearly energy savings implemented have historically shown an average of between 20%-30% per household (Source: US Department of Energy, Weatherization & Intergovernmental Program). Partners uses the National Energy Audit Tool (NEAT) to record all weatherization and retrofitting efforts by AmeriCorps Members. This software records the client's contact information and fuel costs, any diagnostic measurements taken, and all retrofit measures applied to the home. All data from NEAT is reported on an annual basis.

Partners Energy Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Members are to be trained on the usage of advanced diagnostic equipment in order to maximize energy conservation in the homes of the households they serve. The members meet with the Program Director and the Weatherization Trainer on a daily basis to discuss review the projects at hand and discuss what measures are to be implemented on each home or building in order to maximize energy conservation. The Program Director and Weatherization Trainer provide the members with guidance in order to strengthen their knowledge of the weatherization process and to improve the member's performance in the job sites. Upon completion of each project a final inspection is conducted on each home. The Weatherization Trainer inspects all the measures implemented by the members and evaluates the quality of their work.

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Measures which have not been installed according to industry standards are repaired and the members informed and retrained on the specific inadequate measure.

Following the completion of the weatherization work, service recipients are requested to provide feedback regarding their experience with the Partners Energy Conservation Corps program.

Customers are also requested to comment in the level of professionalism, customer service, quality of workmanship, and overall satisfaction with the AmeriCorps Member. These surveys allow Partners' Executive Director to identify strengths and weaknesses in the program and implement corrective measures to address them in the future if needed.

As a result of Partners' Energy Conservation Corps Weatherization Program, low income beneficiaries of this project enjoy a safer and more comfortable home with fewer pollutants such as carbon monoxide, often caused by back drafting furnaces. This reduces the expenditure of energy year round, and the expense and pollution associated with this energy consumption. Because of a significant reduction in the consumption of energy, the low income families served by Partners enjoy reduced energy bills in the future, freeing up already stressed financial resources of these families for other necessary expenses. Reduced energy consumption also means a reduction in the carbon footprint of the home reducing environmental pollution and reliability on fossil fuels.

The performances of the entire Partners Energy Conservation Corps program, including the financial and administrative aspects, are supervised by Partners' Executive Director in conjunction with the Partners Programs Monitoring Committee. This committee consists of local professionals who assess the performance of the weatherization program and make recommendations on how to improve its over-all operations for the future.

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VOLUNTEER GENERATION

In order to motivate households to weatherize their homes and know to ask for Home Energy Assistance, it is necessary to create Energy Conservation Awareness in our communities. A great majority of home owners do not know how energy is used in their homes and how much of this energy is wasted due to poor building performance; such as sparse attic insulation, open by-passes and furnaces and water heaters which perform below par (which also cause health hazards). It is thus important to educate our communities on their households' energy consumption, the need to reduce it and the quick payback on energy conservation measures. In order to help achieve this goal, Partners' AmeriCorps Members will recruit a group of 15 volunteers to organize and host a series of educational workshops on energy conservation, household energy consumption and the benefits of implementing energy conservation measures and performing retrofitting work on one's home.

These volunteers are managed and assisted by the AmeriCorps Members in our weatherization program. Each member is required to recruit two (2) volunteers to instruct them on the basics of energy conservation and building performance. Each volunteer is then asked to outreach to ten (10) households to present them with tips and ideas on Energy Conservation.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Partners for Community Development has several community stakeholders and partners in their energy conservation efforts. Organizations such as the Wisconsin Job Center and the Office of Economic Support play an important role in helping us find responsible members for our AmeriCorps Programs. In addition, several community leaders have taken a personal role in supporting Partners' efforts, which includes many leaders of industry and local authorities in our service area. These individuals provide important oversight and referrals to Partners in an effort to provide the most

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effective and efficient use of resources from the government and private sectors. Many current members of our Board of Directors are serving their second three-year term, and our clients continue to be satisfied with the quality and type of services we provide to our communities. Our stakeholders provide Partners with a framework upon which the organization can rely on to deliver needed funding in our service area. Partners' use of AmeriCorps Members furthers that cause by employing the resources of the community and provides a service to low income and disadvantaged individuals and families.

An additional aspect of the Partners Energy Conservation Corps program is that it may be replicated in any community because Weatherization Assistance Programs have been implemented in all 50 states. During the 2010 - 2011 program year Partners stakeholders continues to collaborate with other Weatherization Agencies in Wisconsin in an effort to study the possibility of placing members at those organizations. It is also Partners intention to request increased funding for the 2011 - 2012 program year and expand our service area to adjacent counties.

SUSTAINABILITY

Partners for Community Development also works closely with the local Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program Office in order to identify those households with the highest need for weatherization services, a number that has continued to grow each year. These individuals are identified by their unusually high energy consumption, the by the presence of elderly individuals, disabled individuals, or families with young children in the household. In addition, by surveying our clients and key stakeholders of the program Partners is able to improve the quality service to our community and promote environmental awareness.

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In addition to implementing the Energy Conservation Corps Program in the homes of our clients, AmeriCorps Members encourage their clients to practice saving habits after the weatherization of their home and spread the word regarding the services they've received to other people in the community. Families who receive our services quickly become aware of how to reduce or eliminate energy waste, and the impact this waste has in their economy and the overall environment. Through this instruction by AmeriCorps Members our clients develop long term energy saving habits, which are reinforced by declining energy bills in the future. Trends have shown that money saved by the services offered by Partners and their AmeriCorps Members is then used for family essentials as well as help stimulate the growth of the local community.

The implementation of the Energy Conservation Corps enhances the capacity of Partners for Community Development to serve its clients in times of economic need. With the recruitment and deployment of eight (8) AmeriCorps Members the agency will be able to increase the number of households it serves and to alleviate the economic burden heating bills place on the budgets of low income families, while at the same time training individuals for future careers in Energy Conservation and creating jobs in our community.

Organizational Capability

ABILITY TO PROVIDE SOUND PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL OVERSIGHT

Partners for Community Development, a non-profit organization founded in 1975, has managed the Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program since 1979, and has managed AmeriCorps funding since 2006. As a direct result of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, Partners was granted funds for 2010 -- 2011 to recruit eight (8) full time AmeriCorps Members who are currently providing Energy Conservation Services in our service area by means of implementing energy savings measures, weatherizing and retrofitting housing units of low-income households.

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The managing staff at Partners for Community Development has become familiar with the rules and regulations of AmeriCorps programs, and to date has been successful when implementing, managing and reporting all funding sources. Since the time when AmeriCorps funds were first awarded to Partners, the organization has remained compliant with all reporting requirements imposed by all funding entities. The Partners Hispanic American Information Center Director, who is the current AmeriCorps Program Manager, works closely with Weatherization Trainer and AmeriCorps Members during the duration of the program in order to ensure all rules and regulations are followed. Partners has made it a priority to insure that AmeriCorps Members are recruited as quickly as possible to fulfill their training requirements, while focusing on recruiting members who are the most likely to fulfill their Terms of Service. Once all members have been entered into the program the Program Director oversee each AmeriCorps Member's progress within the program in order to ensure all rules, regulations and goals are being met.

Each AmeriCorps Member also meets on a monthly basis with other AmeriCorps Members and their supervisors to assess the program's progress and ensure all goals are met and retention remains at 100%. The Program Director also ensures that the reporting requirements and performance measures are met. The Program Director is directly supervised by Partners for Community Development Executive Director, Lucio Fuentez, who has supervise the organization since 1978 and has considerable experience administering federal, state and private funds in the communities served.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF

Partners Executive Director reports to a Board of Directors comprised of eleven (11) individuals from our community which include business owners, members from community organizations, and

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prominent political figures. The Executive Director supervises the AmeriCorps Program Manager, who

is responsible for the administration of the AmeriCorps program.

The key positions are as follows:

Lucio Fuentez is the Executive Director and Founder of Partner for Community Development. Lucio

is licensed real estate agent, has a B.A. in Community Education, is bilingual in English and Spanish,

and has over 30 years of experience combining the resources of the government and the private sector

to address the needs of minorities and low income populations. The Executive Director supervises the

Program Director and provides fiscal and compliance oversight to all of the AmeriCorps programs.

Lucio meets monthly with the Board of Directors to guarantee that all of Partner's programs are in

compliance with established rules and regulations.

Jose Araujo is the Program Director for AmeriCorps Programs. Jose has an International Business BA

and MBA, and has experience as a Homebuyer Assistance Program Manager, Certified Home

Counselor, Certified Housing Quality Standards Certified Inspector, International Customer Service

skills in business and marketing, is bi-lingual in English and Spanish, and has working knowledge of

client care and reporting methods.

Dan Wolf is the Weatherization Director. Dan supervises the AmeriCorps Members' performance on a

daily basis, and works with the members closely to insure that all performance measures are in order

and are met by the end of the program year.

Bill Walker is the Weatherization Trainer. Bill is the Local Training Officer in charge of educating

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AmeriCorps Members in the concepts of weatherization and energy conservation, along with the application and installation of energy conservation technologies and techniques. The Weatherization Trainer also inspects energy conservation measures implemented by the AmeriCorps Members in order to insure compliance with industry standards and coach them toward improvement in the quality of their work.

Ken Leibham is the Finance Analyst. Ken has an MBA, CPA, and BA Accounting, provides financial oversight to the program, and ensures the financial reporting to the Corporation is on time and accurate.

PLAN FOR SELF-ASSESSMENT OR IMPROVEMENT

Partners' Executive Director oversees self-assessment of all AmeriCorps programs by holding monthly meetings with the Finance Analyst, the Board of Directors, the Finance Committee, the Programs Monitoring Committee, the Personnel Committee, and an outside accountant firm to review performance and compliance. The Executive Director also holds bi-monthly meetings with Partner's staff to assess results, address issues of concern, provide feedback, and maintain a teamwork philosophy. Each Partners employee associated with AmeriCorps programs receives at least one performance review each year, and Partners' financial situation is audited every year. Changes are made as needed in order to reach our goals and maintain our sound financial standings.

The Weatherization Director directly supervises the AmeriCorps Members during their training and hands-on work in the field performing weatherization activities and implementing energy conservation measures. The Weatherization Director evaluates the performance of the Weatherization Trainer and each of the AmeriCorps Member at least on a quarterly basis. A self improvement plan

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has been established if needed in order to maximize the member's impact on their community, provide additional training and ensure all members achieve their full potential in the energy conservation field if needed.

PLAN FOR EFFECTIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Partners' Finance Analyst closely monitors the AmeriCorps program budget, as well as the budgets for each of the agency's funding programs. The Finance Analyst promptly reports any possible financial shortages or concern to the Executive Director and Finance Committee as necessary. In the unexpected case of a financial shortage, Partner's Board of Directors has the option of endorsing the use of the agency's general funds to compensate for the deficiency. The Partner's Board of Directors takes all responsible actions necessary to ensure the successful implementation and close-out of all AmeriCorps contracts. Partners AmeriCorps Program Director is familiar with the financial and programmatic aspects of the program as well, and works closely with the Weatherization Director to ensure all programs requirements are fulfilled.

VOLUNTEER GENERATION AND SUPPORT

The Partner's Board of Directors and their five advisory committees are currently composed of 27 industry professionals who serve as volunteers for the organization. The Board and each of these committees meet once per month. Partners' relies on the professional expertise of these volunteers to assist in the direction of agency business ranging from staff salaries and benefits to agency policies, as well as other programmatic changes. In addition to these volunteers Partners recruits and deploys an average of 100 community volunteers for the past several years. In past program years Partners recruited, trained and deployed 112 volunteers who provided 756 hours of community service at various organizations and local non-profits.

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ORGANIZATIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Partners for Community Development has been the leading energy conservation service provider for low-income families in Sheboygan, Manitowoc and Ozaukee Counties for over 30 years. Partners' Executive Director has received numerous awards since the organization's inception in 1975. The most recent awards include the Cesar Chavez Distinguished Service Award (2005), the Weatherization Operators of Wisconsin President's Award (2002), and the United Way Appreciation Award (2001-2006). Partners' staff members also serve on community committees and give their time to schools, churches and other organizations.

SUCCESS IN SECURING COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In October of 2006 Partners became the leading agency for HOME and HCRI state funds for our first-time Homebuyers Assistance Program and Home Rehabilitation Program. We collaborated with Women's Employment Project on this initiative, and in doing so expanded Partners' service area to Door and Kewaunee Counties for that program. Partners has also collaborated with other community-based agencies for our current AmeriCorps funding, and has work together with the Sheboygan and Manitowoc Health and Human Services Departments, the Early Learning Center, Lakeland College, and Sheboygan Safe Harbor on other funding projects for the betterment of the community at large.

In all instances Partners acts as the lead agency, providing financial and programmatic oversight to the collaborators with monthly meeting where each agency reports their progress and any difficulties. Periodic visits by the AmeriCorps Program Director are also arranged to ensure that all regulations are being followed and programmatic goals are being achieved.

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LOCAL FINANCIAL AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Partners Energy Conservation Corps weatherization program has continued to grow and expand over the years of its association with AmeriCorps program. For the 2005-2006 program year Partners was granted a \$600,000 pilot project in the City of Milwaukee in addition to our regular contract, which was over \$1 million. The pilot program has ended, but Partners' 2009-2010 contracts has increased for our current fiscal year, the current Partners' Weatherization Contract exceeds \$3 million.

Constant community support has also been obtained in order to meet the match requirements of our AmeriCorps contracts. Partners relies on a number of local organizations to provide our organization with matching funds. Partners' leadership and commitment to serving our area has prompted continuous support from community stakeholders who believe in our mission and trust our leadership.

Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

COST EFFECTIVENESS

Partners for Community Development is requesting eight (8) MSYs at a cost to the Corporation of \$13,300 each. The grantee will provide matching funds in the amount of \$177,601, equivalent to 63% of the total cost of the project, exceeding the minimum required grantee share of 24% of the program costs. These matching funds are acquired through the Public Benefits allocation to Partners, a non-federal cash match.

BUDGET ADEQUACY

Based on previous AmeriCorps contracts and our current AmeriCorps Recovery contract, we feel the proposed budget is adequate to support Partners' Energy Conservation Corps in order to achieve the

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program goals as proposed. Having administered AmeriCorps programs since 2006, Partners' has

learned that is important to enroll committed members who earn a competitive living allowance

based on our budget allocation. The proposed living allowance is competitive for our community in

order to ensure 100% recruitment and retention of AmeriCorps Members. In addition to reasonable

living allowances, funds have been budgeted for training and supplies to allow the AmeriCorps

Members to successfully learn how to implement energy conservation measures in the homes of the

individuals we serve.

Evaluation Summary or Plan

(N/A)

Amendment Justification

(N/A)

Clarification Summary

Partners for Community Development, Inc. Grant #: 11AC122961

Grant Amount: \$105,476

Member Service Year Requested: 8

Member Positions Requested: 8

PROGRAMATIC CLARIFICATION ITEMS

1. Please remove organizational and AmeriCorps history from the executive summary. This should be

a one paragraph summary of your proposed program.

Partners for Community Development, Inc., Wisconsin Weatherization Operator in Sheboygan,

Manitowoc, and Ozaukee Counties, is requesting funding from the Corporation for National and

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Community Service to continue serving our communities through the Energy Conservation Corps.

The program has been designed to train AmeriCorps members to apply energy conservation measures in the homes of eligible recipients in the three counties served by our agency. These AmeriCorps members will help our agency increasing the number of units and individuals served. Low income individuals receiving Weatherization services will benefit by decreasing their energy usage, thus spending less in energy bills, which will allow them to cover the cost of other living expenses.

2. Please explain the program leadership structure. It is not clear how the AmeriCorps program will be managed. How do the weatherization director, the AmeriCorps Program manager, and the Program Director work together and how do their AmeriCorps roles differ?

Partners for Community Development, Inc. is a non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors comprised of 11 individuals from our community which include business owners, members from community organizations, business executives, and prominent political figures.

Lucio Fuentez, Executive Director and Founder of Partners for Community Development, Inc., reports to the Board of Directors. Lucio Fuentez is a licensed real estate agent, has a B.A. in Community Education, is bilingual in English and Spanish, and has over 35 years of experience combining governmental and private resources to address the needs of minorities and low income population. The Executive Director supervises the overall operations of the organization including the Weatherization Program.

Jose Araujo, Program Director for AmeriCorps Programs, is responsible for overseeing all AmeriCorps funded programs within our organization, making sure all CNCS guidelines and policies are being followed. Jose is responsible for gathering data and reporting program progress to the Corporation for National and Community Service.

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Dan Wolf is the Weatherization Program Director. Dan oversees the operations of the entire Weatherization Department. Dan supervises the work of the Weatherization Production Manager, Energy Auditors, Crew Foreman, Weatherization Technicians, and AmeriCorps members to ensure all performance measures are being met, while maintaining an educational and safe environment for all crew members.

As the Weatherization Program is an existing program of Partners for Community Development, the Weatherization Program Director and the Program Director for AmeriCorps Programs will collaborate to ensure the effective merge between the two programs, as well as complying with all funding sources and programs' regulations. The Weatherization Program Production Manager will be directly supervised by the Weatherization Program Director.

Andres Araujo is the Weatherization Program Production Manager. Andres is in charge of the direct supervision of the Weatherization Crews including Crew Foreman, Weatherization Technicians, and AmeriCorps Members. Andres is responsible of scheduling projects, training sessions, and providing guidance on energy conservation related issues.

Four Crew Foremen will directly supervise and train all AmeriCorps members on the field. All Crew Foremen are experienced and state certified professionals in the Energy Conservation industry.

AmeriCorps members are mentored by the Foremen on how to implement energy conservation measures and mastering skills learned during training sessions.

3. Please provide accomplishments of the current program during the last few years toward achieving its goal.

During the current grant year 2010-2011 the AmeriCorps members participating in Partners' Energy Conservation program have helped weatherizing 248 units, directly benefiting 581 individuals. Also,

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every AmeriCorps member participating in the program has received and completed the Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation (WECC) Boot Camp, Safety Training, Lead-Safe and Asbestos-Safe Certifications, as well as First Aid training. AmeriCorps members participating in our program are in the process of completing the CNCS certified Citizenship Training.

During this program year, AmeriCorps members have participated in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies organized by the State Office and have also participated in other service activities.

4. Please explain what you mean by "members are continuously supervised". In the budget, where two staff members are dedicating only 30% combined to the program, it does not seem to correspond to the members being continuously supervised.

AmeriCorps members, while in the field, are trained and supervised by the Crew Foremen. Each AmeriCorps member is assigned to a Crew at the beginning of the day, and the Foreman is the person responsible for the member assigned to his/her crew. The wages paid to the Crew Foremen are 100% funded by the Weatherization Program with funds provided by the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration.

5. Please explain who are the AmeriCorps members' supervisors. How are these individuals identified and what role do they play with supervising service and training?

The AmeriCorps members are closely supervised by the Crew Foremen, whom are highly qualified and experienced individuals that oversee the operations of the crews on the field. Crew Foremen are in charge of supervising the AmeriCorps members, ensuring they complete the scope of work required in each dwelling, following the procedures and skills learned during trainings received, as well as

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following safety procedures.

6. Please provide additional detail describing how the program's impact in the community will be sustained beyond the presence of federal support.

The implementation of the Energy Conservation Corps enhances the capacity of Partners' Weatherization Program. By deploying eight (8) AmeriCorps members the agency will increase the number of units and individuals receiving services and being trained and educated on energy conservation measures. Upon completion of services in each household, residents are educated on different ways to save on energy and reduce emissions. The measures implemented in each unit will benefit the residents for an extended period of time, allowing them to improve their overall living situation, reduce their utility expenditures, and live in a healthier environment. These services also help the entire community by reducing the pollutants in the environment.

AmeriCorps members participating in the program receive intensive training that will allow them to pursue a future career in the field of Energy Conservation upon completion of their program.

- 7. Please explain the outcome targets for the main service activities.
- Economic Opportunity Outcome Target:

50% (a minimum of 4) of the individuals recruited as AmeriCorps members will be economically disadvantage individuals who are unemployed or underemployed prior to their term of service. These members will be expected to secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing their AmeriCorps term.

- Environmental Stewardship Outcome Target:

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Each unit receiving weatherization services provided by our program will save an average of 16 million BTUs (British Thermal Unit) per year, lowering the energy consumption and amount of pollutants being released in the environment. The amount of BTU's saved per unit will be calculated using the National Energy Audit Tool (NEAT) estimating the needed BTUs to heat and cool a household before and after the unit is weatherized.

8. Please explain why this program will only operate in three counties in Wisconsin.

Partners for Community Development has been designated as the Weatherization Operator for these three counties (Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Ozaukee) by the Division of Energy Services, State of Wisconsin Department of Administration. Other agencies are currently servicing the other counties in the State of Wisconsin. In the future we would be open to placing AmeriCorps members in other agencies to replicate the service being provided by our program in other communities.

9. Please describe how the program has or will obtain diverse non-Corporation resources for program implementation including in-kind and cash commitments.

Non-Corporation resources are being leveraged from Wisconsin Public Benefits funds. These funds are collected by the electric utility companies by charging each customer 3.0% of their total monthly energy consumption, this "State-Wide Low Income Assistance" charge is then allocated to Wisconsin Weatherization Operators to provide Energy Conservation services to recipients of the Sate Fuel Assistance program.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES CLARIFICATION ITEMS:

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10. Please revise your opportunity measure. You cannot opt into output O2 since the individuals receiving training are members. Please select one of the member development measures O12-O17

After revision, the O12 measure will be selected stating that 50% of all AmeriCorps members enrolled for the 2011-2012 year will be economically disadvantaged that were unemployed prior their term of service.

Following the regulations, our program has also selected Measure O15 stating that four (4) of the 8 AmeriCorps members participating in the program during the 2011-2012 program year, will secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing their AmeriCorps term.

11. Please ensure that you have an aligned intermediate outcome for the output measure you select.

Proper changes will be made in E-grants as soon as it becomes available.

ENVIRONMENT/CLEAN EVERGY:

12. Please align your intermediate outcome results and indicator statements so that they clearly identify what will change as a result of your program's intervention.

Intermediate Outcome Result: Residents of homes weatherized by AmeriCorps members will save an average of 16 million BTUs (British Thermal Unit) per year, lowering the energy consumption and amount of pollutants being released in the environment. Money saved as a result of the services offered will aid families covering the cost of other family essentials, thus helping stimulate the growth

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of the local community.

Indicator Statement: EN7: Annual energy usage reduction in units.

13. It's not clear why the output instruments (client surveys) are being used to count the number of

houses retrofitted/weatherized. Please review.

Output Instrument: Number of homes receiving weatherization services by AmeriCorps members will

be recorded and reported by the Weatherization Production Manager. He is responsible for

documenting the program progress and production goals. Information gathered by the Wisconsin

Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) reporting system will be use to report our progress.

14. Please clarify time frame for the intermediate outcome. Please keep in mind that you will need to

report annually on your progress towards meeting these measures.

Utilizing the information gathered by the WHEAP reporting system, our program will report the

average number of BTU's saved in the homes receiving weatherization services by our AmeriCorps

members. The average number of BTU's saved will be recorded and reported quarterly.

BUDGET CLARIFICATION ITEMS:

Please make the following changes directly in the application budget in e-Grants:

15. Section 1.A. Personnel Expenses: Staffing level to support the program does not appear reasonable

to meet the management and oversight needs of the grant. Please increase the percentage of staffing

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support or please provide a brief justification for why the originally proposed amount is reasonable.

Partners for Community Development, Inc. considers the proposed amount reasonable. The AmeriCorps members, while on the field, will be trained and supervised by the Crew Foremen who's wages are covered by the Weatherization grant provided to our program by the Division of Energy Services (DES), Wisconsin Department of Administration. The AmeriCorps Program Director and Weatherization Production Manager will spend 15% of their time allocated to ensure the guidelines and performance measures of the grant are being followed and met, as well as supervising the work of the AmeriCorps members and other Weatherization employees. No budget changes are needed in this area.

- 16. Part I. C. Staff and Member Travel: Please provide the calculation for the \$2,000 for travel to CNCS meetings. There is no required minimum. Please move weatherization training costs to Member Training section.
- Travel expenses for one person to CNCS meetings: \$480 Round Trip Air transportation cost, \$190 per night/5 nights hotel accommodation, \$44 a day/5 days for meals, \$350 conference registration fees. Total cost is \$2,000.
- Weatherization training costs will be moved to the Member Training section.
- 17. Part I. E. Supplies: Please provide a calculation for the member toolkit.
- Member toolkit: \$805 per tool kit. One (1) toolkit per AmeriCorps member. (\$805 * 8 = \$6,440)

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- 18. Part I. G. Staff and Member Training:
- Each AmeriCorps member will be required to complete the Lead-Safe / Asbestos-Safe Certification. The cost of the registration is \$260.00 per participant. Calculation: \$260.00 * 8 = \$2,080 / 365 days per year = \$5.70 a day per member.
- 19. Part I. I. Other Program Operating Costs: Please ensure that the budget covers criminal history checks (state registry and NSOPR) and FBI checks for all members and grand covered staff.
- Background Check: (\$7 / member) * 8 members = \$56. CNCS Share \$56 Grantee Share \$408.00
- 20. Part B. Match & Source of Funds: Please explain WI Public Benefit Funds.

Wisconsin Public Benefit Funds are raised by the electric utility companies by charging a "State-Wide Low-Income Assistance" fee to all electricity users in the State. This 3% of the total monthly usage of all energy users is allocated to fund Weatherization Programs across Wisconsin. Partners for Community Development, Inc., being a Weatherization Operator receives these funds from the Division of Energy Services to perform energy conservation type of work in the homes of low-income individuals in our area.

Continuation Changes

(N/A)

Performance Measures

SAA Characteristics	
AmeriCorps Member Population	- None c x Geographic Focus - Rural
x Geographic Focus - Urban	Encore Program
Priority Areas	
x Economic Opportunity	x Environmental Stew ardship
Selected for National Measure	x Selected for National Measure
Education	Healthy Futures
Selected for National Measure	Selected for National Measure
☐ Veterans and Military Familie	Other
Selected for National Measure	Selected for National Measure
☐ Disaster Services	
Selected for National Measure	
Grand Total of all MSYs enter	ed for all Priority Areas 8
Service Categories	
Energy Use Reduction	

Job Development/Placement

National Performance Measures

Priority Area: Economic Opportunity

Strategy to Achieve Results

Briefly describe how you will achieve this result (Max 4,000 chars.)

Partners for Community Development is proposing to enroll eight (8) Full Time AmeriCorps Members to train and participate in our Weatherization Assistance Program as Partners Energy Conservation Corps members. In addition to receiving training from our certified weatherization staff, AmeriCorps Members experience hands-on training within the agency in order to increase the number of low income dwellings which receive weatherization services. These AmeriCorps Members learn how to properly weatherize homes by providing free of charge services to low income individuals who qualify for Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance. These AmeriCorps members to be recruited must qualify as economically disadvantaged individuals in order to receive this job training and other skill development services.

Result: Intermediate Outcome

Result.

Four (4) of the 8 AmeriCorps members participating in the program during the 2011-2012 program year, will secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing their AmeriCorps term.

Indicator: O15: Members that secure employment.

Target: AmeriCorps Members recruited for this program will secure employment during their term of service or within one year after the completion of their term.

Target Value:

Instruments: 100% of the AmeriCorps members participating in the 2011-2012 program will be asked to complete a survey to record their employment situation. This survey will be completed when the AmeriCorps member exits the program and one (1) year after the AmeriCorps member has completed the term of service.

PM Statement: 50% of AmeriCorps members will secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing their AmeriCorps term.

Result: Output

Result.

50% of all AmeriCorps members enrolled for the 2011-2012 year will be economically disadvantaged, meaning they were unemployed prior their term of service.

Indicator: O12: Members unemployed prior to service.

Target: AmeriCorps Members recruited for this program that are economically disadvantaged. Members are recruited from various sources which include the Wisconsin Job Center and the Office of Economical Support.

Target Value:

aiue.

Instruments: Survey all AmeriCorps members recruited and enrolled for the 2011-2012 regarding their

National Performance Measures

Result.

economic/employment situation before their term of service begins.

PM Statement: AmeriCorps Members participating in Partners; Energy Conservation Corps gain valuable hands-on skills in weatherization which can be used to find employment in the private sectors. They also receive Lead Certificate, OSHA Safety, CPR, and Citizenship Training which can be of great benefit to them in finding employment after their term of service has ended.

Priority Area: Environmental Stewardship

Strategy to Achieve Results

Briefly describe how you will achieve this result (Max 4,000 chars.)

AmeriCorps Members will implement Weatherization and Energy Conservation measures by applying state of the art technology to identify and seal air leakages, an infrared camera to utilize and identify voids in insulation, and use a carbon monoxide detector to measure the amount of CO released by various home appliances in low income homes. After the needs of a dw elling are identified members implement energy conservation measures to the home, including: blow ing insulation into w alls, floors and attic, sealing air leakages, and installing energy efficient light bulbs and carbon monoxide detectors. Through hands-on training and usage of this equipment and implementation of these measures AmeriCorps Members are able to reduce energy consumption related expenses in the communities we serve and gain skills that allow them to pursue careers in the Energy Conservation field.

Result: Intermediate Outcome

Result.

Residents of homes we atherized and retrofitted by AmeriCorps Members realize the benefits they receive by enjoying low er energy bills and an increase in their comfort of living. Money saved by the services offered by AmeriCorps Members is then used for family essentials as well as help stimulate the growth of the local community.

Indicator: (DELETED) EN7: Annual energy usage reduction (in units).

Target: Average million BTUs saved by residents of homes weatherized and retrofitted by members of

Partners Energy Conservation Corps.

Target Value:

Instruments: Utilizing the information gathered by the WHEAP reporting system, our program will report the average number of BTU;s saved in the homes receiving weatherization services by our AmeriCorps members. The average number of BTU¿s saved will be recorded and reported quarterly.

PM Statement: Clients receiving weatherization and retrofitting by Partners Energy Conservation Corps save an average of 16 million BTUs, showing a noticeable savings in their energy bills.

Result: Output

National Performance Measures

Result.

AmeriCorps Members apply their training to help weatherize and retrofit homes by providing free of charge services to low income individuals and families who qualify for Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance. Giving AmeriCorps Members hands-on experience Partners boosts its capacity to provide weatherization services, while at the same time giving members the master skills they need to find gainful employment in the Energy Services field.

Indicator: EN1: Housing units w eatherized or retrofitted.

Target: The number of homes where AmeriCorps Members implement energy conservation measures.

Target Value: 550

Instruments: Number of homes receiving weatherization services by AmeriCorps members will be recorded and reported by the Weatherization Production Manager. He is responsible for documenting the program progress and production goals. Information gathered by the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) reporting system will be use to report our progress.

PM Statement: The implementation of Partners Energy Conservation Corps program enhances our capacity to serve low income clients in times of economic need. AmeriCorps Members help increase the number of households served and alleviate the economic burden energy bills place on the budgets of low income families. At the same time it gives members the hands-on experience they need to find future careers in Energy Conservation.

Required Documents

Document Name	<u>Status</u>
Evaluation	Not Applicable
Labor Union Concurrence	Not Applicable