

Southwestern Regional Housing and CDC



Challenges, Approaches and Outcomes in Weatherization Work.

Hoarding

- It is a sensitive and difficult subject to have with the homeowner
- Mostly they are in denial about the situation
- They are embarrassed and ashamed
- The unit poses safety hazards to the energy auditor, weatherization crew, and QCI as well as any state inspectors that will have to perform inspections
- The risk of injury on the job site are increased, and include possible cuts by moving objects, tripping over something, falling objects, getting trapped by shifting items, a fire hazard etc.
- The energy auditor, crew, and inspectors will not be able to work in a clean and healthy environment and will most likely have poor work performance due to the hinderance of the hoarding.

How to Assist Homeowner

- Ask immediate family members to assist with the unit
- Seek help from friends
- Church members
- Social workers
- Specific details on what weatherization measures we will complete and EXACTLY what needs to be removed
- Put it in writing for the homeowner











Pests, Roaches, Rodents, Black Widow, Brown Recluse Spiders, Wasp Nests, Fleas and Ticks

- Roaches pose health risks especially to children, the elderly, and people that have weakened or compromised health systems.
- They spread diseases such as salmonellosis, dysentery, and typhoid fever.
- Rodents can spread hantavirus, leptospirosis, and salmonellosis
- Black widow or brown recluse spiders also pose a safety threat to weatherization crews. Brown recluse bite may cause pain, tissue damage, and ulcers surrounding the bite swelling, chills fever, joint pain and nausea. It may take weeks to heal from a brown recluse bite
- Black widow bites may cause muscle cramps, abdominal pain, sweating, nausea, and pain at the bite site
- Fleas and ticks may transmit typhus and tapeworm to humans; they also can cause welts an allergic reaction





Filthy Units

- Dog feces throughout the house
- Human excrement/urine in closets and home
- No cat litter boxes, cat urine soaked through to subflooring
- Rodent feces due to infestation
- Ducts filled with debris, rodents, feces, etc.
- Soiled clothes piled up to 4 or 5 feet
- Do not use trash cans, trash is thrown on floors everywhere
- Decomposing animal remains inside unit





RED FEATHER

DEVELOPMENT GROUP



A photograph of an older man with grey hair, wearing a black baseball cap, a grey hoodie, and blue jeans, standing in a rustic wooden cabin. He is looking down at a black wood-burning stove that has a fire burning inside. The cabin has wooden walls and a wooden floor. The image is split vertically, with the left side showing the man and the stove, and the right side containing text.

About red feather

Founded in 1994, Red Feather has been a dedicated partner in serving Indigenous communities for over two decades.

- Working with the **Hopi Nation since 2005**
- Partnering with the **Navajo Nation since 2015**

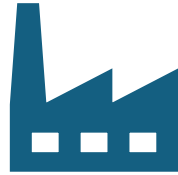
Our Core Values

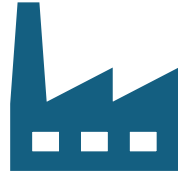
- **Empowering Tribal Communities**
Supporting self-determination and local leadership
- **Healthy Homes**
Promoting safe, efficient, and culturally relevant housing solutions
- **Listening**
Centering community voices and honoring lived experience
- **Sustainability**
Building long-term, environmentally responsible solutions



Challenges Facing the Navajo Nation

Energy Transition & Resource Scarcity





Closure of Coal Mines

Loss of a key energy and economic resource for many families.



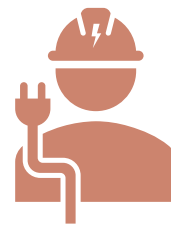


Increased Demand for Firewood

As coal becomes less
accessible,
households are
increasingly
dependent on
firewood for heating
and cooking



Infrastructure & Access Gaps

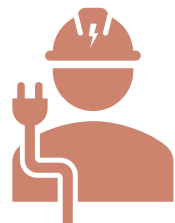




No Running Water

Many residents haul water long distances or rely on delivery services.





Lack of Electricity

Thousands of homes remain off-grid, limiting access to lighting, refrigeration, and communication.



Health & Housing Inequities





Housing Disparities

Overcrowded,
substandard,
and aging
housing
conditions
affect quality of
life and well-
being.





Health Disparities

Limited access to healthcare facilities, environmental health risks, and chronic conditions are prevalent.



The background of the slide is composed of 15 vertical panels, each showing a different view of a landscape. The landscape features a dirt road that curves through a field of dry, yellowish-brown grass. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The panels are arranged in a slightly curved line, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall color palette is dominated by the earthy tones of the landscape and the bright colors of the sky.

Red feather DEVELOPMENT Challenges

1

Rural

Geographic isolation and limited internet connectivity

2

Trust

Mistrust or uncertainty about government/organizational processes

Community Outreach Challenges

Complex

Complex or unfamiliar application procedures

3

Barriers

Language or cultural barriers in communication

4



Rural
Geographic isolation and
limited internet connectivity



Trust
Mistrust or uncertainty
about
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Complex

Complex or unfamiliar
application procedures



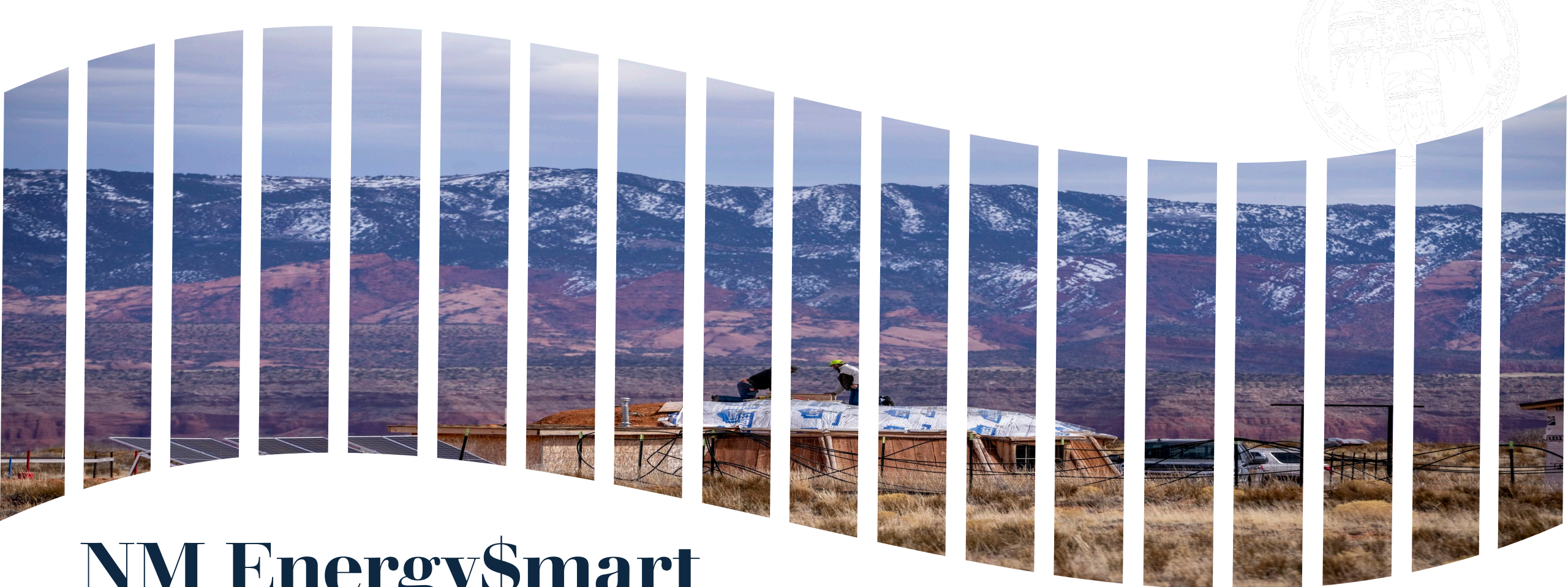
Barriers

Language or cultural
barriers in communication





Last Challenge:
Funding Gaps for Roof & Pre-Weatherization Repairs



NM Energy\$mart Weatherization Program: Overcoming Challenges on the Navajo Nation

Community-Based Implementation

**Hooghan Honeezili
LLC**
Local Subcontractor –
Navajo Nation

Roy Lee Hosteen
New Mexico
Community
Coordinator





Native Home Resources Network (NHRN) Program



HEALTHY HOME ENERGY & SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Contractor Oversight
Materials Procurement
Inspection & Reporting
Budget & Billing
Insurance

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Community Presentations
Listening Sessions
Advocacy
Curriculum Development
DIY Learning
Media Engagement

NATIVE HOME RESOURCE NETWORK (NHRN)

Client Consultation
Application Assistance
Home Assessments
Material Donations
Volunteer Recruitment
Project Management



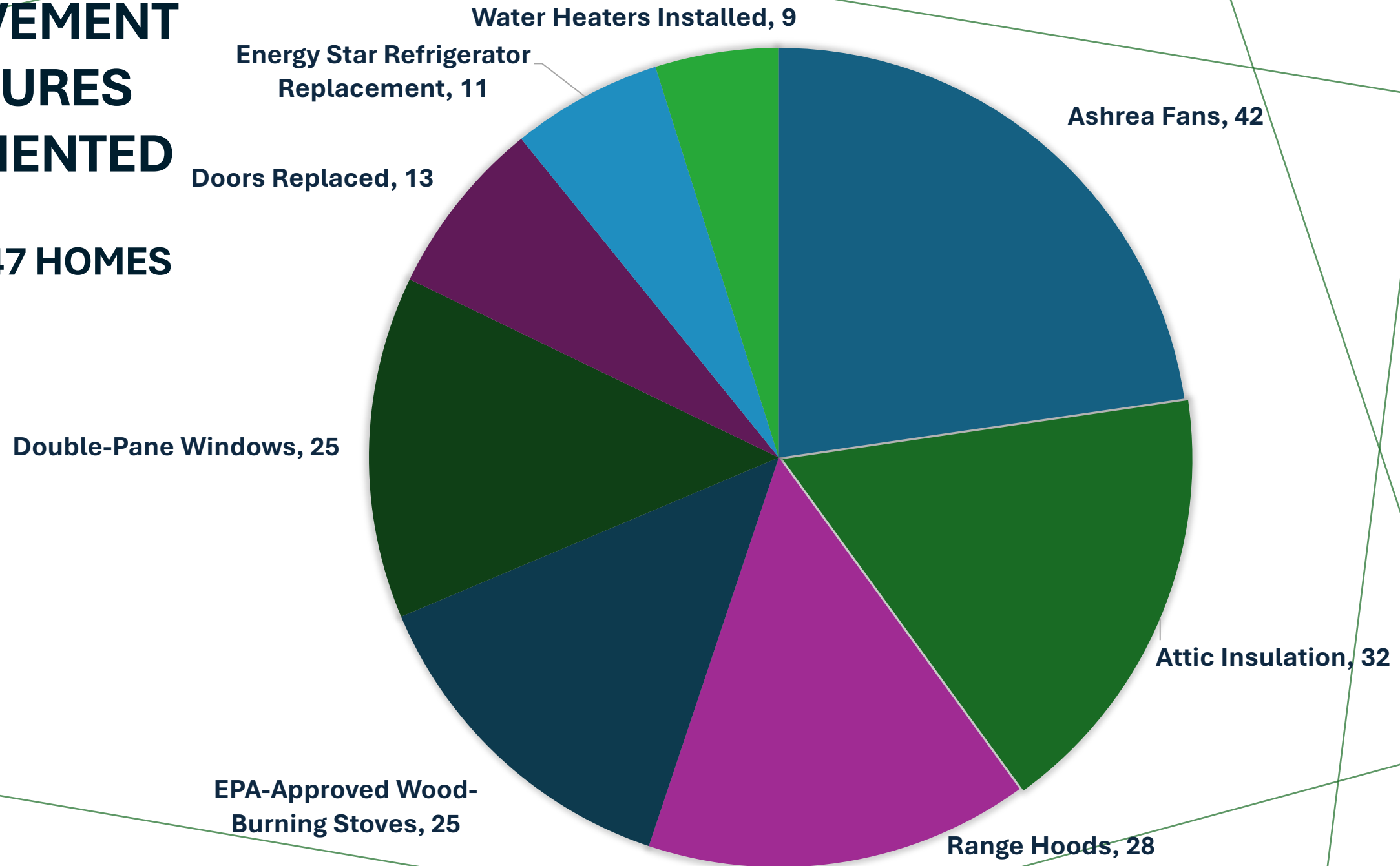


NM Energy\$mart Program Metrics

Impact & Outcomes in Navajo Communities

IMPROVEMENT MEASURES IMPLEMENTED

ACROSS 47 HOMES





Highlights of Home Improvement

Window Upgrades

Before
Hogback, NM



Window Upgrades

Windows Replacement
Saving Per Year: \$385
Overall: \$2,384

After
Hogback, NM



Window Upgrades

Before
Shiprock, NM



Window Upgrades

Woodstove
Replacement Saving Per
Year: \$242
Overall: \$2,956

After
Shiprock, NM





Installation of EPA-Approved Wood-Burning Stoves & Preventing Fire Risks

After (EPA-Approved Stove Installed)

- Now, with a certified wood stove installed properly, it's safer and burns slower.
- Client Statement: "I don't need to use as much wood, and my home stays warmer for longer."

Woodstove Replacement Saving
Per Year: \$502
Overall: \$4,720

After- Torreon, NM



Mechanical ventilation upgrades

Health and Safety Measures



Before
Shiprock,
NM



Belly repair and insulation

Floor Fiberglass
Insulation Saving Per
Year: \$842
Overall: \$4,474

After
Shiprock, NM



Belly repair and insulation

Pre-weatherization Work

Client received partial assistance from local Chapter House

Beclabito, NM



Leaks and Moisture Intrusion:

- Promote mold growth and damp living spaces

- Trigger respiratory illnesses and allergies

Heat and Energy Loss:

- Poor insulation causes uncomfortable indoor temperatures
- Raises energy bills and strains heating systems

Pre-weatherization Work



Ceiling Insulation Saving Per Year: \$335
Woodstove Replacement Saving Per Year: \$210
Overall: \$687

Beclabito, NM



Testimonial quotes from homeowner

July 22, 2025
POBox 281
Fruitland, NM 87416

Roy,
Thank you so very much to your organization and yourself for assistance to make my home safer and more energy efficient. You have been so helpful to explain that was made to reduce the possibility of mold growth and moisture forming in the w installation of the fans over my stove and in my bathroom. I have noticed that no longer fogging up like before. I have also noticed that the home is cooler as applied in bare spots that were overlooked when the house wa in reduce the cost of cooling and heating during very hot and Red Feather Native Home Resource Network 2717 North Steves Blvd. Suite 8 Flagstaff, Arizona 86004
Re: Weatherization Assistance
Dear Mr. Roy Hosten,
This letter will serve as a "Thank You" for the weatherization assistance I received through 19-23rd of 2025 in Tiis Soh Sikaad.
First I would like to acknowledge the worker who worked on my house. His work shows he wasted no time and expediently did the work with no supervision. He was polite to workers who are productive, dedicated and experienced. They ported efficiency by insulating my bathroom from
Second I am very grateful for the weatherization in my home with less worry about my bathroom from

Sincerely,
Betty Anderson.

May 30, 2025
Red Feather Native Home Resource Network
2717 North Steves Blvd. Suite 8
Flagstaff, Arizona 86004

Re: Weatherization Assistance

This letter will serve as a "Thank
19-23rd of 2025 in Tiis Soh Sikaad.

First I would like to acknowledge the worker who worked on my house. His work shows he is an experienced worker who is productive, dedicated and experienced. They portray the Mission of your company. I would like to thank him for the weatherization assistance I received through your program. He was polite and respectful. Thank you for the weatherization assistance I received. It eases my mind that I don't have to worry about my house. I don't have to worry about my house. I don't have to worry about my house.

Second I am very grateful for the weatherization assistance I received. It eases my mind that I will spend a warm winter in my home with less worry about consuming lots of wood and coal. My home was repaired with cost saving energy efficiency by insulating my roof, replacing light bulbs and insulating my water heater. Old windows were replaced, bathroom fan was installed. I don't have to worry about cleaning my stove as that was done with new stove piping. Third I would like to thank the funders of this program. Your commitment to identify and connect people in need with resources is commendable. I will forever be indebted to this company for the help and having a weatherized home will be beneficial to my health and well-being. I received through your program a productive, dedicated and experienced. They portray the Mission of your company. I am very grateful for the weatherization assistance I received. It eases my mind that I will spend a warm winter in my home with less worry about consuming lots of wood and coal. My home was repaired with cost saving energy efficiency by insulating my roof, replacing light bulbs and insulating my water heater. Old windows were replaced, bathroom fan was installed. I don't have to worry about cleaning my stove as that was done with new stove piping. Third I would like to thank the funders of this program. Your commitment to identify and connect people in need with resources is commendable. I will forever be indebted to this company for the help and having a weatherized home will be beneficial to my health and well-being. I received through your program a productive, dedicated and experienced. They portray the Mission of your company.

Third I would like to thank the funders of this program. Your commitment to identify and connect individuals and families in need with resources is commendable. I will forever be indebted to this company for the assistance. I am growing in age and having a weatherized home will be beneficial to my health and well-being.

Fourth and most importantly I would like to thank you Mr. Hosteen for your caring and cordial greetings during Assessment visits. You explained the program with knowledge and completed the final work order during the assessment and in Navajo. You are the first contact for the company and you represented the company well. I am growing in contractor who assess the home but my son had good words for him.

In conclusion, I am very satisfied and happy with work done by the company and you represented the company well. I have experience with others so they too can benefit from this program. Thank you so much!

Thank you Mr. Hosteen for your caring and cordial greetings during your Home visit. I am growing in the first contact for the company and you represented the company well. I did not meet the person who assess the home but my son had good words for him. I definitely will share my experience with others so they too can benefit from this program. We are building community for a better future. Thank you SO much!

Sincerely,
Joanne Silver Smith

Sincerely,
Joanne Silvernith

To Whom It May Concern,

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally request assistance with home repairs due to displacement caused by severe winter conditions. The freezing weather led to my pipes bursting, and I was unable to install my skirting in time. Additionally, my home lacks a proper heating source, and we have been relying solely on electric heaters.

Under these circumstances, I had no choice but to relocate temporarily to ensure the safety of my daughter. My daughter has underlying health conditions, and we needed to find a safe and healthy environment for her. The necessary home repairs so that we can return home are greatly appreciated. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist you.

Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally request assistance with home heating issues during severe winter conditions. The freezing weather led to my pipes freezing, and I had to install my skirting in time. Additionally, my home lacks a proper heating system, having been relying solely on electric heaters.

Given these circumstances, I had no choice but to relocate temporarily to ensure the safety and well-being of my family. My daughter has underlying health conditions, and we needed to find a warm and stable environment for her.

I kindly ask for your consideration in assisting with the necessary home repairs so that we can return as soon as possible. Any support you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience regarding this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Antonia Martza

Good morning
Gentlemen
Please help
yourself to
coffee &
donuts



Thank You- Ahéhee
Visit Redfeather.org for more information



Client education in Weatherization

By: Joe Wright

Client Education at application process

- Explain the application process
- Explain what will happen next
- Explain how the program works and the waitlist



Client education at the assessment

- Explain the assessment process
- Explain the Audit process and how the audit works
- Explain the test that we are doing
- Explain what will happen next



Client education at time of work

- Crews will explain all work they are doing and why they are doing it
- Crews will go over all health and safety items i.e. smoke/co detectors & mechanical ventilation
- Crews will go over maintenance of things installed i.e. furnace & mini splits



Client education at final inspection

- Go over work that was done
- Go over results of QCI
- Explain in detail why and how to maintain measures installed

