



DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT FOR SELF RELIANCE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Department for Self Reliance Initiates Memorandum of Agreement  
with Community Housing and Infrastructure Department**

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On January 28, 2014, Community Housing and Infrastructure Department (CHID) staff met with Department for Self Reliance (DSR) staff to hash out the details of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) concerning the weatherization section of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

“Since we started the LIHEAP program, the demand for weatherization is apparent,” said Roxanne Gorman, Department Manager III of DSR.

Both LIHEAP and CHID have weatherization funds in their grants and both programs are able to work together and cost share to maximize federal funds so that each program’s goals and objectives are met.

There are several purposes for the MOA; the most significant is partnering with an existing Navajo Nation program that offers a weatherization program. “We don’t have skilled staff to offer weatherization that is why it is necessary to enter into an agreement with CHID, so that our roles are clarified,” said Gorman.

The other purpose of the MOA is to work jointly to increase the customers’ knowledge in weatherization through training, so that customers can become proactive in reducing energy costs and improving energy efficiency in their own homes.

The outcome of the MOA will oblige LIHEAP to ensure that the customer is eligible for LIHEAP assistance, provide the funds from the LIHEAP grant and refer the customer to CHID.

Once CHID receives a LIHEAP weatherization referral, CHID will conduct a home energy audit on the home of the LIHEAP customer. CHID will provide staff to correct any energy audit finding that is included in the MOA.

The energy audit is an assessment of the home and the report generated defines the work needed to be done; the weatherization work will reduce energy consumption and increase energy efficiency in the customer's home.

At this time, DSR is not accepting any applications for weatherization until further notice.

For more information on LIHEAP, call (866) 347-2403 or visit [www.nnpsr.navajo-nsn.gov](http://www.nnpsr.navajo-nsn.gov).