

News Release
For Immediate Release



National initiative turns into local success

Pontiac, Mich., April 9, 2010 – Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) showcased a local success story in today.

Elected officials from several levels of government gathered at the home of A Jackson Thursday to get a first-hand view of the improvements made to the 1 foot home. In attendance were Congressman Gary Peters (MI-09), Barbara N representing Senator Debbie Stabenow, Holly Ravesloot from the Departmen Washington, D.C., Don Mathis, President of the National Community Action also from Washington, D.C., along with Mattie McKinney Hatchett, Oakland Commissioner (Dist. 10), representatives from Governor Granholm's office, t Community Action Agency Association and the City of Pontiac.

Al-Lishia Jackson and her mother, whom she lives with, qualified for the Wea Assistance Program and have since received over \$4,000 in energy-saving imp their home including a new furnace and enhanced insulation. Funding for the came from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Energ Optimization, a program mandated by state government.

Catalyst, the Pontiac based contracting company hired with ARRA funds to n improvements, was on-site and demonstrated blowing a Michigan-made insul into the home's attic. Leon Brown, a Pontiac resident, is heading up the project tor Catalyst and was on-site to show Congressman Peters and others how weatherization is working in Pontiac. "We are grateful to have an opportunity to improve the homes in our community, and one by one, make a difference in our neighbors' lives," says Brown.

Average energy savings after a home has been weatherized are 20 to 30 percent, which Jackson says she will use "to save, or do other good things with."

Recognition of the energy-efficiency measures and local job creation was high on the agenda.

Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency is a Community Action Agency committed to providing education and resources that help the low-income, elderly, and those with disabilities become self-sufficient. Ninety programs provided over 270,000 services in 2009. Helping people. Changing lives. www.olhsa.org

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