

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Source: Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph**

Stephanie Lux, Community Outreach Coordinator

(816) 233-8281, ext. 106;

[slux@endpov.com](mailto:slux@endpov.com)

[www.endpov.com](http://www.endpov.com)

**Beat the cold—and the energy bills—by making your house more efficient**  
*CAP offers weatherization options to help lower utilities costs by reducing wasted energy*

(Oct. 26, 2009—St. Joseph, MO) Have an out-of-control electric or gas bill? Notice the air is colder around doors and windows? Feel a draft indoors on windy days? You may be able to solve all of these problems by weatherizing your house.

Weatherization consists of sealing air leaks around windows and doors, fixing any gaps in insulation, and making sure heating and cooling systems are running efficiently. Many families may find that their little leaks add up to the equivalent of having a large hole in the side of their house. Lost air can add up to big energy losses. Fixing these leaks keeps heated or air-conditioned air from escaping, making the house more comfortable in both the winter and the summer, and lowering utility costs.

“Weatherization is an invaluable service,” says Delphia Shanks, Director of Community Development at Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph (CAP St. Joe). “Weatherization is a long-term investment in saving money and energy, and since energy costs disproportionately affect those with smaller incomes, weatherization has a big affect on their financial stability.”

**How to apply for a weatherization crew to come to your home:**

CAP and Community Services, Inc. (CSI) of Maryville are each offering weatherization options. In the program offered by CSI, homeowners may apply to have a weatherization crew come and weatherize their house. To participate in this option, homeowners must complete an application with CSI. Income guidelines for this option are as follows:

Household size	Monthly Income
1	\$1,805
2	\$2,428
3	\$3,052
4	\$3,675
For each additional resident, add \$623.	

CSI will be accepting applications for home weatherization services at Community Action Partnership (817 Monterey, St. Joseph, Mo.) on:

Nov. 2, from 2-6 p.m.

Nov. 16, from 2-6 p.m.  
Nov. 30, from 2-6 p.m.

For more information on this option, please contact Laura Parman or Samantha Baier at CSI at (660)582-3113 or Anthony Stiens at CAP St. Joe at (816)233-8281.

**Weatherization classes for the general public:**

For the do-it-yourselfer, Community Action Partnership will offer weatherization classes, conducted by CSI at the CAP office (817 Monterey), open to the general public. These classes are offered:

Nov. 19, from 5:30-7:30 pm  
Dec. 17, from 2-4 p.m.  
Jan. 21, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Feb. 18, from 2-4 p.m.

Participants will learn how to weatherize their own homes, and may receive weatherization kits, if grant funds are available. During the class, participants will have the opportunity to sign up for CSI's weatherization program.

For more information on weatherization classes, please contact Dennis Stuck at (816) 233-8281.

Community Action Partnership has provided programs to move low-income families out of poverty since 1965, serving nearly 16,000 people in poverty in Northwest Missouri. Head Start is one of the core programs managed by the agency. Additional services provided by Community Action Partnership to low-income families include utilities assistance, affordable housing, financial literacy and home ownership classes, life skills and workforce training. For more information, visit [www.endpov.com](http://www.endpov.com).

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