

NEWS RELEASE

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Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency Weatherization Program Ends

The Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (FPRA) Board recently voted to suspend the joint weatherization program with the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) due to budget constraints. The weatherization program began in October 2008 and has assisted 237 low-income homeowners and/or renters within the FPRA Boundaries of the City of Fort Pierce over the past 16 months.

Since the program's inception, \$359,254 in funding from the FPRA has provided home audit inspections, electrical repairs and thermostats, window sealing and glass replacements, kitchen, shower head/light bulb replacement, and insulation upgrades for City residents. In addition to home weatherization improvements, eligible individuals received a total of \$14,500 in rebates for new household air conditioners, washers, refrigerators and solar hot water heaters.

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provided through the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs provides funding assistance to low income families that own their home in St. Lucie, Indian River, Palm Beach or Martin Counties. Application to WAP may be a viable alternative. Funded annually by the Department of Energy, this program receives supplemental funding from the Department of Human Services to offer weatherization activities and/or repairs to homeowners.

For additional information, contact Indiantown Non-Profit Housing, Inc. toll-free (877) 212-0309, (772) 597-3667 or www.inphihousing.org.

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