



## WEATHERIZATION WORKSHOPS TEACH “DO-IT-YOURSELF” HOME ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS

--Free Clinics to Help Homeowners Reduce Energy Costs, Improve Home Comfort, Health and Safety--

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WICHITA** – In celebration of National Weatherization Day, the South Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD) will host two free weatherization workshops to help Kansas homeowners learn cost-effective ways to curb energy use. Sponsored by SCKEDD, Lowe’s Home Improvement Stores, Westar Energy and Comfort Products, the clinics will offer tips on taking a whole-home approach to energy efficiency, how to adapt lifestyles to reduce utility costs and how to distinguish “do-it yourself” projects from those that may require professional services.

“Homeowners across Kansas are looking for ways to cut energy waste, and workshops like these are a great place to learn which weatherization practices work best,” said Bill Lampe, SCKEDD Production Coordinator.

The workshops will take place on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 2pm at the Lowe’s stores located at 333 South Ridge Road and 2626 North Maize Road in Wichita. Admission is free and registration is not required. Participants attending the workshops are encouraged to enter prize drawings for the following giveaways:

- Free HVAC System - provided by Comfort Products
- Two Free Home Energy Audits - provided by SCKEDD

All participants will receive a free compact fluorescent light bulb or low-flow showerhead donated by Lowe’s, plus energy efficiency brochures provided by Westar Energy. ***Supplies are limited, so come early!***

The South Central Kansas Economic Development District is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing healthy, safe affordable housing for all Kansans. SCKEDD assists individuals, companies and government agencies with community improvement, housing, and other urgent needs.

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SCKEDD administers the Kansas Weatherization Assistance Program on behalf of Kansas Housing Resources Corporation. Weatherization provides housing improvements that increase energy efficiency in income-eligible, single- or multi-family dwellings, including manufactured homes.

According to statistics from U.S. Department of Energy, weatherization:

- Saves \$437 in heating and cooling costs year after year at current prices.
- Decreases national energy consumption by the equivalent of 24.1 million barrels of oil annually.
- In 2010, weatherized homes nationally will save \$2.1 billion for low-income families.
- For every \$1 invested in the program, weatherization returns \$2.51 to the household and society.

Weatherization services may include weather-stripping and/or caulking around windows and doors; cleaning, testing, repairs or replacement of heating and/or cooling systems; refrigerator testing and possible replacement; adding insulation to walls, ceilings or foundation areas; infiltration reduction and addressing indoor air quality issues.

SCKEDD provides weatherization services in the following counties: Barber, Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Harper, Kingman, McPherson, Rice, Reno, Pratt, Stafford, Sedgwick and Sumner. For more information about SCKEDD or the Weatherization Assistance Program, please contact 316-262-7035 or visit their website at [www.sckedd.org](http://www.sckedd.org).

