

### Abstract Summary

**Name of Applicant:** Community Relations-Social Development Commission (SDC)

**Project Director:** Ronald Klafka SDC Residential Services Manager

**Project Title:** WAP Enhancement for Milwaukee Homes

**Project Objectives:** The WAP Enhancement for Milwaukee Homes will include activities to: 1) Establish a network of housing, energy and workforce development agencies to implement a WAP Enhancement program to benefit City of Milwaukee; 2) Evaluate and create a Scope of Work to scale up electrification-ready homes; 3) Use every available resource to make homes weatherization-ready; 4) Use a shared database to create a coordinated network of housing repair resources and cross-program referrals; and 5) Expand training opportunities to increase the availability of a skilled and motivated workforce to work on WAP enhancement and similar housing repair and rehab projects.

**Project Design:** SDC and its community partners will work together to coordinate Weatherization Assistance, Environmental Control, Energy Efficiency, Healthy Homes, Lead Hazard Control, and Asthma Control programs to maximize the impact made on the level of energy usage in Milwaukee homes. The need for a project like this is based on a high number of older residential units occupied by low-income households that carry a high energy burden and have limited access to resources that will allow them to live in safe and affordable homes.

The targeted areas selected for the project are based on DOE data that identifies the highest energy burdens in the City of Milwaukee. SDC will receive additional data from We Energies (Southeast Wisconsin's energy provider), to identify the specific households that: 1) have the highest energy usage; and 2) have not received WAP services. SDC will report its success in establishing an effective plan to transform housing units into electrification-ready dwellings, achieving the potential to install carbon pollution-free electricity and household mechanical systems. The project will be implemented under the direction of SDC's Residential Services and will target Milwaukee neighborhoods where older housing brings a significantly high energy burden on low-income households. As demographics in these areas predominately represent BIPOC populations, the project is designed to support underserved communities and equitable community development. This project will contribute to efforts to create energy efficient homes that produce zero-carbon emissions for families most in need.

**Expected Results:** SDC and its partners will coordinate WAP Enhancement and energy retrofit projects on 150 units located in the targeted areas. In the end the following outcomes will be achieved: Families live in homes that leave a zero-carbon footprint; Targeted communities experience a reduction of the energy burden; Gaps in services and WAP deferrals are eliminated; City of Milwaukee entities and community housing agencies maximize access to resources, serving more families; Disadvantaged, low-income BIPOC homeowners and families have access to critical resources that improve their quality of life; The City of Milwaukee has an effective plan to transform housing units into electrification-ready dwellings, achieving carbon pollution-free electricity; and City of Milwaukee has access to skilled, qualified, and motivated workforce to accomplish energy efficiency milestones