

Residential Energy Efficiency Program (REEP)

City of Houston

Presented by Gavin Dillingham, PhD
Sustainable Communities Conference - March 10th



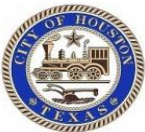
Progress to Date

- 5,300 homes weatherized
- 12 neighborhoods have participated
- 377 homes per month
- Cost per house \$1,443



Weatherization Efficiency Gains

- Approximately **5,808 MWh** reduction
- Cost savings of approximately **\$700,000**
- Average **20%** energy savings per household
- Average **\$335** energy savings per home over a six month period compared to previous year
- **75%** of surveyed homes claim that can tell a difference in the cooling and heating of their homes



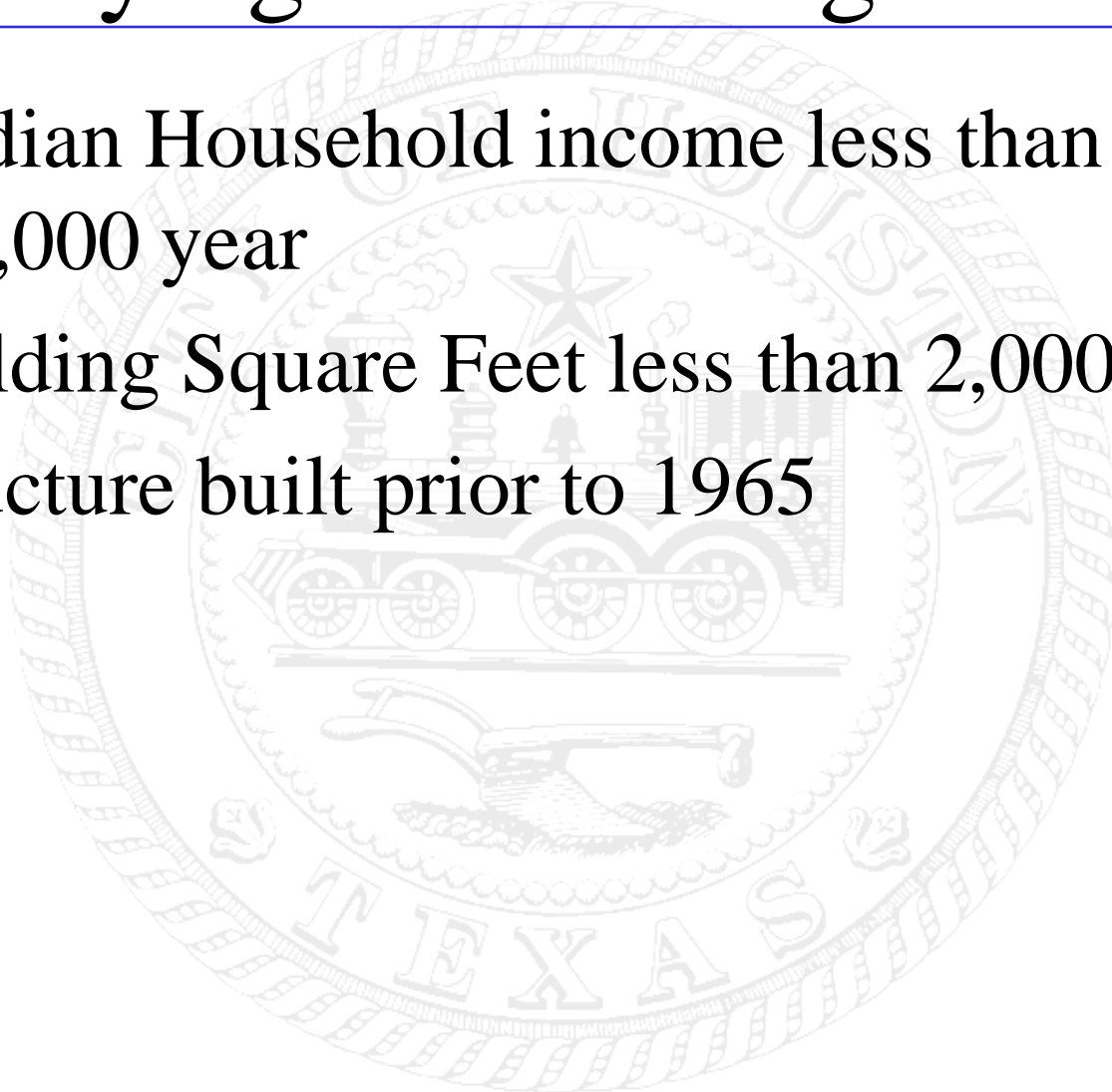
Our Approach

- Identify and qualify low-income neighborhoods
- Implement neighborhood by neighborhood for maximum efficiency
 - Communicate and meet with community leaders to educate neighborhood about program and its benefits
 - Sign-up residents at community parties, events and walks
- Assign home to a weatherization contractor
- Contractor conducts:
 - Home energy efficiency assessment
 - Implements required energy measures
- Post-inspection and follow-up



Qualifying REEP Neighborhoods

- Median Household income less than \$40,000 year
- Building Square Feet less than 2,000
- Structure built prior to 1965



Weatherization Measures

- REEP Basic

- Weather stripping
- Window caulking
- Attic insulation
- Energy efficient light bulbs
- Ductwork

- REEP Plus

- Energy Star refrigerator
- Energy Star ceiling fans
- Energy Star window air conditioning units
- Solar screens



Funding

- Funding by Homeless and Housing Fund and TIRZ set aside funding
- Partner with local utility for reimbursement of some weatherization costs
- Potential funds from ARRA Weatherization Program



Key Elements to Building Program

- Educate homeowners to build trust
- Same neighborhood by neighborhood approach involving civic leaders
- Standardize offering and pricing for simplicity and efficient roll-out
- Expand pre-qualified contractors and in-house capabilities to meet demand
- Leverage the web with easy to navigate web site



Future Growth

- Goal 30,000 in four to five years
- Approximately 5,000 homes per year
- 417 homes per month
- Add one more full-service contractor

