

The National Association of State Community Services Programs would like to nominate the **Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD)** and its project in the village of Murray City, Ohio for an Award at the Alliance Dinner on October 3, 2012. Murray City is a village of 472 people, and every home in the community was weatherized by COAD. Murray City was chosen by COAD to participate in a pilot program designed to help local residents receive weatherization updates to their homes at no cost.

The project was paid for with a variety of funding sources, including federal stimulus dollars, while local utility companies are chipped in with various programs for low- and moderate-income households. The project is a model for weatherization projects across the nation in that weatherization crews did retrofits for every home in the community, using a "block by block" approach and streamlining weatherization services, thereby saving project dollars. Residents participated in the weatherization of their own homes. block by block, town by town" approach, where weatherization services can be streamlined, saving taxpayer dollars. Murray City was chosen because of its small size and because it's an economically distressed area. As a result of the program in Murray City, businesses looking to participate in community improvements helped with initiatives such as new playground equipment and handicap accessibility improvements to the senior center.

The project was carried out by a local community action agency, COAD ("Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development/Ron Rees coordinator) working with American Electric Power, Columbia Gas, Gov. Ted Strickland's office and the Appalachian Regional Commission. Part of the program involved working with utility companies to help residents replace their older appliances with energy-efficient ones, and completing lighting retrofits in their homes. The story of the Murray City project is told in the YouTube link below. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHGjY001BFo>