



For Immediate Release

Contact: Gerry Massey
Resources for Seniors
919-713-1543 or
GerryM@rfsnc.org

**Free Weatherization Program
'Summerizes' Your Home So You Can
Keep Your Cool and Save Money This Summer**

Thousands of Wake County Homeowners and Renters Qualify for Federal Program Designed to Reduce Costs and Energy Use

(June 9, 2010) RALEIGH, NC. Thousands of homeowners and renters in Wake County are eligible to have their homes weatherized this summer free of charge, a move that can help them stay cool in summer *and* save a bundle all year long. The **Weatherization Assistance Program** is part of a federally-funded initiative of the US Department of Energy (DOE), to help qualifying families weatherize their home by implementing or installing a variety of cost-saving measures. Repairs and upgrades can include the insulation of attics, walls, floors, and pipes, sealing and insulating duct work, installing smart thermostats and low-flow shower heads, and providing tune-ups for heating and cooling systems. Refrigerators are metered for energy efficiency and may qualify for replacement. In fact, weatherization can cut power bills by up to a third, with an average energy savings of \$413 per year.

The Weatherization Assistance Program has already helped many families in Wake County. For Junenell Blackmon, whose home was weatherized last fall, the program has been a blessing.

“I feel both lucky and fortunate to have found out about this wonderful program,” said Blackmon. “My home is definitely cooler this summer, and we were able to stay much warmer this past winter. The air just feels fresher and smells cleaner. We were also pleased that the workers were very respectful of our home and of my family. I would recommend this program to anyone who qualifies.”

In Wake County, the **Weatherization Assistance Program** is administered by Resources for Seniors.

“We are eager to help families reduce their energy bills so that they can use that money to purchase necessities such as groceries and medicine”, said **David Cottengim**, President of Resources for Seniors. “People often think of weatherization as something you do in the winter, but weatherizing for the heat and humidity of summer is just as important. Through the **Weatherization Assistance Program** we can help people stay cooler in the summer, warmer in the winter and live in a safer home all year long.”

The **Weatherization Assistance Program** is targeted towards low to moderate income households and there is no age requirement. Single family homes, mobile homes and certain multi-family dwellings (for which special guidelines apply) are eligible to be weatherized as part of this program, with priority response given to the elderly, people with disabilities and families with children

For more information about the Weatherization Assistance Program in Wake County, please call (919) 713-1570 or visit www.resourcesforseniors.com/weather.php.

###

About the Wake County Weatherization Program

The Wake County Weatherization Program delivers energy efficiency services to low-to-moderate income households and prioritizes service to the elderly, persons with disabilities, and households with children. Families and individuals eligible to receive weatherization services are those with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level. Weatherization Assistance services are delivered to single-family homes, mobile homes and certain multi-family dwellings. Those renting property may also apply. Services provided include: addressing carbon monoxide levels and

combustion safety, sealing air leaks, installing insulation in attics, walls and floors, sealing and insulating ducts, installing a smart thermostat, installing energy efficient light bulbs, installing low-flow shower heads, and performing tune-ups to heating and cooling systems. In Wake County, the Weatherization Assistance Program is administered by Resources for Seniors. For more information, call (919) 713-1570 or visit on the Web: www.resourcesforseniors.com/weather.php.