# Weatherizing In COVID-19: Assessing & Minimizing Health Risks

BRENDA ILG, Program Manager, LIEAP/WAP



## Wyoming WAP



- 23 counties; varying geography;
  mostly rural
- Two WX agencies: CCS covers 5
  counties; WWS covers 18
  counties from 8 locations +
  Eastern Shoshone Tribe
- Grantee level = 1 Program Mgr. between LIEAP & WAP
- 1 contracted back-up for State
  Program Mgr.
- Miles & miles of windshield time

# **Risk Assessment**

- \* Know before you go!
- \* Health orders: Wyoming only had one county (Teton) with a "stay at home" order
- \* Statewide, risk levels varied from county to county
- \* Monitor risk levels for changes: COVID-19 is fluid



# **Risk Analysis Tools**

- \* Screening questions
- \* Job Safety Analysis (JSA) form
- \* COVID-19 Pandemic/Infectious Disease Checklist



# Sample Screening Questions

- \* 1. Have you or anyone in your household traveled to any of the following locations in the last 14 days: China, Iran, South Korea, Italy, and Japan? (If answer is yes, defer the home for at least 14 days.)
- \* 2. Have you or a household member had contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 (Corona virus) in the last 14 days? (If answer is yes, defer the home for at least 14 days.)
- \* 3. Have you or a household member had any of these symptoms in the last 14 days? Fever greater than 100; Difficulty breathing; Cough. (If yes, defer the home for at least 14 days.)
- \* 4. Are you or a household member currently experiencing fever over 100, difficulty breathing or cough? (If yes, defer the home for at least 14 days.)

# Sample JSA

#### \* New information captured since COVID -19

Employee/Client Health		
COVID-19	Illness	Containment Walls
Pandemic	Spreading Illness	Respirator/N95 Mask
Infectious Disease	Other:	Hand Sanitizer
Other:	Other:	Cleaning Sanitizer
Other:	Other:	Hand Protection
Other:	Other:	Protective Clothing/Tyveks
Other:	Other:	Other:

Completed By:

Date:



## **COVID-19 Checklist**

#### COVID-19 Pandemic/Infectious Disease Checklist

COMPANY INFORMATION				
Agency	name:			
Address	ĸ			
Telephone number:				
Fax nun	nber:			
Date:				
CHECK	LIST			
	COVID-19 Screening Questions Asked		If client answer = Yes to any of questions, defer unit for at least 30 days	
	Unit deferred due to screening or client request		Date for deferral follow-up	
	Unit is suitable for splitting interior and exterior work		If checked, do exterior work now & defer interior work to date deemed safe	
	Social distancing of 6 ft. (2 meters) is possible for unit		Follow guidelines: do not shake hands; maintain social distancing; sanitize surfaces; Wear PPE; use hand sanitizer	
	Use of physical containment barrier necessary		Set up zip wall containment to isolate unit occupants from crew; follow OSHA & CDC safety guidance; wear PPE	
	Job Safety Analysis (JSA) completed & in client file		Must include COVID-related risks & mitigation protocols	
	Followed proper protocols for disposal & maintenance of PPE		Prevent cross-contamination	
	Safety Protocols for document handling were followed; The virus is estimated to remain active on paper 4-5 days; on cardboard up to 24 hours; on plastic 2-3 days		Use of gloves/hand sanitizer; wash hands between files/documents; documents for client signature placed in plastic zipick bag; bag wiped down with sanitary wipe; cut sit for signature area; have client sign using own pen; wipe bag down again; repeat as needed; limit human to paper touches & sanitize between touches & humans	
	Tools/equipment used in unit sanitized following completion		Prevent cross contamination	
	All crew members sanitized hands prior to touching crew vehicle surfaces		Prevent cross contamination	
	Washed hands thorough	y immediately upon return to shop/office	Prevent cross contamination	
	State or local govt. shelte Date issued Date of Estimated End Actual End		Halt work to in-progress units; notify clients via phone/letter; implement online training for impacted crew and/or dispatch to work in unaffected locales; when lifted, contact clients and resume in-progress work	
	By client request or other reason, final inspection deferred		Date deferral expected to expire Date inspection completed	

Wyoming created a COVID-19 Pandemic/Infectious Disease Checklist.

Safety protocols that guides all work in the field.

Includes deferral conditions for screening or client request.



MARCH 10, 2020

#### Safety Saves

Wyoming Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Safety Newsletter

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2

#### Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the best source of up-to-date guidance for planning, preparing and responding to COVID-19. At this time, much is unknown about how the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads. Current knowledge is mainly based on what is known about similar coronaviruses.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in humans and many different species of animals such as camels, cats, bats, and cattle. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread from person to person, such as MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV. The virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in China and Italy and within the United States to a lesser degree at this time. However, respiratory illnesses such as seasonal influenza are also currently widespread in many areas.

Since weatherization crew members are in direct contact with the public we serve, and we work within the homes of those we serve, it is important to prepare and plan for a possible COVID-19 outbreak. The CDC has issued interim guidance that may help prevent workplace exposures. Additional information is available on CDC's web page at www.cdc.apv/coronavir.sovid19.

#### CDC Recommended Strategies for Employers

- Actively encourage sick employees to stay home: employees with symptoms of acute respiratory illnesses are recommended to stay home and not come to work until they are free of fever, signs of fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines.
- Separate sick employees: symptomatic employees should be separated from other employees and sent home.
- Emphasize staying home when sick, respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene.
- Perform routine environmental cleaning.

#### EPA List of Registered Disinfectants:

https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPPT-2009-0150-0021

#### Safety Newsletter

- Great Communication Tool
- Stay in touch with changes

Safety is job one. And, it is everyone's job.

Germ Farm

# **Continuing the Learning**

- Wyoming JSA and Checklist
- https://nascsp.org/coronavirus-resources/
- https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html
- https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-hhs-va-announce-covid-19-insightspartnership



# Weatherizing In COVID 19: Field Re-entry in Michigan

Maddy Kamalay, Weatherization Specialist, Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity



# WEATHERIZATION FIELD RE-ENTRY IN MICHIGAN

AUGUST 5, 2020





#### MICHIGAN WAP: OVERVIEW

State Office and Local Agencies Overview

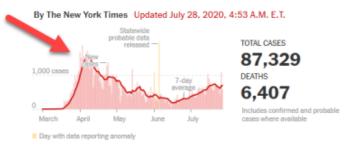
Annual Funding Sources and Levels

State suspended WAP Operations during COVID-19



## **COVID IN MICHIGAN**

## Michigan Coronavirus Map and Case Count



- Large initial spike in cases very early
- At one point was the state with the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest death count and case numbers (10<sup>th</sup> highest population)





### FIELD WORK HIATUS

- Very abrupt and cautious shut down
- All field work stopped in Weatherization on March 18
- BCAEO had to work to align with Executive Orders and the Governor's guidance to determine how long our shutdown would last
  - Piecewise approach
- In early May an Executive Order was released allowing for construction, and aligned well with Weatherization retrofits





## **RE-ENTRY PROTOCOLS**

- Utilizing guidance from the <u>Executive Order</u>, agencies had to create protocols that covered all required items from the checklists in order to return to field work
- Upon review and approval from BCAEO, agencies were released one by one to the field
  - Agencies began work in June with a few agencies waiting until July or later





#### FEDERAL V. STATE – DID NOT ALIGN

- WAP Memo 062 DOE FAQ on COVID
- Refers to the White House <u>Guidelines for Opening Up</u> <u>America Again</u>
- Does not align with State of Michigan Phases of the <u>MI Safe</u> <u>Start Plan</u>
- Came up with plan collaboratively with DOE, BCAEO and agencies
  - I month in MI Phase 5 = Federal Phase 3





## **VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

- Agencies need to wait until one month after Phase 5 to begin work with vulnerable populations
  - Defined as:
    - Elderly individuals (age 60+)
    - Individuals with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy



 All other work can begin as soon as they received their reentry approval letter





# KAMALAYM@MICHIGAN.GOV

# Live Q&A

Submit a question to be answered by our speakers LIVE! Questions will be read aloud by the moderator. We will attempt to answer as many questions as possible.

