



Contact: **Bernice Cage**
Tel.: 614-233-4157
Cell Phone: 614-626-1117
Email: bcage@morpc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs offer Relief during High Temperatures

(Columbus – August 9, 2016) Making sure your home is weatherized will aid in keeping it cool during high temperatures according to the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). MORPC’s Home Weatherization program is a free service offered to residents in Franklin County in an effort to reduce energy consumption and improve health, safety and comfort. The service not only keeps homes warm in the winter but also aids in keeping homes cool during the summer.

Franklin County households seeking more immediate relief from the heat may also benefit from The Breathing Association’s Summer Crisis Program through August 31. Electric utility assistance or a window air conditioning unit may be provided to income-eligible households that meet certain eligibility requirements.

“Staying cool in the summer is necessary especially for those households that are medically vulnerable,” states Colette R. Harrell MS, The Breathing Association Director of HEAP & Social Services. “The Breathing Association is here to help you through our Home Energy Assistance Program’s (HEAP) Summer Crisis Program. Stay Cool, Stay Well.”

MORPC’s home weatherization program reduces air leaks and insufficient insulation, which contribute to uncomfortable indoor temperatures. MORPC’s professional staff performs home energy inspections and safety checks, and identifies energy-saving improvements and related health and safety hazards. The resulting work may include tune-up or replacement of the furnace or water heater, installation of insulation, air sealing, or replacement of refrigerators and light bulbs with more efficient models.

“Heading into the hottest month of the year, we encourage Franklin County residents to apply for free services that aid in keeping the cool air indoors,” said Christina O’Keeffe, MORPC’s Director of Energy & Air Quality. “Now is the time to contact MORPC - not only will you reduce your energy consumption, but you will also have a more comfortable home now and in the colder months ahead.”

-more-

Working to Build a Better Region

111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215-5222
Phone (614) 228-2663 Fax (614) 621-2401
www.morpc.org

MORPC provides free services year-round to income-eligible Franklin county households. Funding is provided by Columbia Gas of Ohio's WarmChoice® program, American Electric Power (AEP) Ohio's Community Assistance Program, and the Ohio Development Services Agency's Home Weatherization Assistance Program and Electric Partnership Program.

Visit www.morpc.org/EnergyServices for more information or call MORPC at 614-621-1171 to determine eligibility and apply over the phone. For more information on the Summer Crisis Program, visit www.breathingassociation.org/heap/summer-crisis-program or call The Breathing Association for an appointment on their 24 hour hotline 866-861-6399.

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is a voluntary association of local governments and regional organizations which envisions and embraces innovative directions in economic prosperity, energy, the environment, housing, land use, and transportation. Our transformative programming, services and innovative public policy are designed to promote and support the vitality and growth in the region.

The Breathing Association serves the community as the leading resource for promoting lung health and preventing lung disease through education, detection, service and treatment.