

■ Obituaries

2

■ Community

3

■ Daily Happenings

4

THURSDAY, OCT. 25, 2007

## CHANGE, Inc. celebrates

### Weatherization Program helps low-income families

As the cold weather approaches, most families across the country are turning up their thermostats to combat dropping temperatures.

For low-income families, however, cranking up the heat is not always an option. These families pay 16 percent or more of their annual incomes for energy compared with only 5 percent for other non low-income families. Unable to pay balances or reconnection fees, some families are considering how they will survive this winter without heat.

CHANGE, Inc.'s Weatherization Program can help by providing permanent solutions to reduce the energy burden on low-income families by installing cost-effective, energy efficient materials and services.

**"For many of these families, the money is so stretched that they must make hard decisions about heating their homes and eating. After our crews provide services, families experience an average energy use reduction of 20 percent or more."**

- Dave Ruhl,

CHANGE, Inc.'s Weatherization Program

CHANGE, Inc. Weatherization coordinator

is in each county of the Northern Panhandle, working in the homes of truly needy families making a real difference in their lives, officials said.

"For many of these families, the money is so stretched that they must make hard decisions about heating their homes and eating. After our crews provide services, families experience an average energy use reduction of 20 percent or more. This means that hundreds of dollars are put back in their pockets to buy groceries, visit a doctor, buy medicine or improve their standard of living," explained Dave Ruhl, CHANGE, Inc. Weatherization coordinator.

For more information about the Weatherization Assistance Program, contact CHANGE, Inc. in Weirton at 797-7733.