

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Yolo County Seeks Community Partners for Home Energy Efficiency Programs**

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Department of Community Services' Sustainability Division is excited to announce they're looking for community partners to support the engagement of residents with two essential household efficiency programs: the Home Energy Score (HES) Pilot Program and the Weatherization Program. These initiatives align with Yolo County's goal, established by the Board of Supervisors in 2020, to achieve a carbon-negative footprint by 2030.

The County's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) serves as a strategic roadmap outlining Yolo County's efforts to attain this ambitious goal, mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, and enhance the community's resilience to climate-related challenges. Developed with extensive public engagement, the CAAP proposes actionable recommendations for emissions reduction, natural resource conservation, renewable energy adoption, and support for sustainable agricultural practices. It is structured to foster community well-being, equity, and resilience across all phases and outcomes.

Building on the momentum generated by the CAAP, the County, in collaboration with the Yolo County Climate Action Commission (YCCAC), has identified Early Action Projects to accelerate progress towards becoming carbon negative. Among these initiatives, the Home Energy Score (HES) Pilot Program and the Weatherization Programs stand out for their potential to strengthen energy efficiency, lower energy expenditures, and enhance quality of life, particularly for rural and low-income residents.

The HES Pilot Program offers voluntary energy assessments conducted by trained technicians, furnishing homeowners with personalized efficiency scores and actionable recommendations. Supporting up to 50 homes, with a focus on low-income homeowners and multifamily properties, the program also offers complimentary DIY weatherization kits. These kits empower residents to independently enhance their homes' energy efficiency through access to tools, resources, and educational materials.

To facilitate the successful implementation of these programs, the Sustainability Division is seeking partnerships with three dedicated Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). Interested parties are invited to submit applications between May 24 and July 12, 2024. Selected partners will play a pivotal role in outreach, education, event coordination, feedback collection, and distribution support. Each chosen CBO will receive \$8,000 in compensation, provide representatives for monthly meetings ( $\approx$  60 minutes), and provide additional coordination and event support between fall 2024 and winter 2026.

Qualified organizations are encouraged to submit a letter, not exceeding 5 pages, stating their endorsement of the HES and Weatherization Programs, detailing their experience in community outreach, event coordination, and provision of multilingual services. Applications should be sent to <a href="mailto:Sustainability@YoloCounty.org">Sustainability@YoloCounty.org</a> by Friday, July 12, 2024.

For more information regarding the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, please visit <a href="www.YoloCAAP.org">www.YoloCAAP.org</a>. Additional details about the HES and Weatherization Programs can be found at <a href="www.YoloCounty.org/EfficiencyPrograms">www.YoloCounty.org/EfficiencyPrograms</a>.

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