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*Media Contact:* Robyn Grossman  
Hoffman York  
414.225.9520  
rgrossman@hyc.com

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## **Energy Efficiency Program Helps Families in Need Weather High Energy Bills**

**MADISON, Wis. (January 23, 2007)** – As cold temperatures continue, many Wisconsin residents will find themselves struggling to keep their families warm and pay their energy bills. Fortunately, a program exists that can ease the strain of high energy costs, helping those in need stay comfortable during Wisconsin winters.

Since 2001, the Focus on Energy sponsored Targeted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Program has helped limited-income households make energy-saving improvements to their homes and save money on their energy bills. This program aims to improve the safety, comfort, affordability and energy efficiency of limited-income households.

“Homeowners who have participated in the program in the past have saved an average of \$200 annually on their heating bills and \$50 per year on their electricity charges,” said Suzanne Harmelink, program manager for the Targeted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program. “This proves that by making a small investment of time and money, families can see payoffs that will benefit them today and in the future.”

Qualifying households will receive a home energy assessment and depending on the results, the program may provide the following energy efficiency measures: replace inefficient heating systems, water heaters, central air conditioners and refrigerators; add insulation to ceilings and walls, seal air leaks and install energy-saving devices such as water-saving showerheads and faucet aerators, as well as compact fluorescent light bulbs.

- more -

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If a family’s annual income falls within the given range for the size of the household, detailed in the table below, 90 percent of the cost of energy improvements to their home could be covered by the program.

<b>Are you eligible?</b>		
<b>How many in your household?</b>	<b>Annual Income</b>	
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
1	\$14,700	\$19,600
2	\$19,800	\$26,400
3	\$24,900	\$33,200
Each additional person, add	\$5,100	\$6,800

*Note: Customers of some cooperative or municipal utilities may not be eligible.*

If you have questions about the Targeted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program or would like to request an application, please call Focus on Energy at 800.762.7077 or visit [focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com).

**About the Focus on Energy Targeted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program**

Focus on Energy is a public-private partnership that provides energy efficiency and renewable energy information and services to the state's energy utility customers. Focus on Energy's Targeted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program assists qualifying Wisconsin residents in making energy efficiency improvements to their homes. The improvements are completed by program consultants at minimal costs to the homeowner and aims to make homes more comfortable, safe and energy efficient. Focus on Energy provides applications, with full program details, at 800.762.7077 or at [focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com).

**About Focus on Energy**

Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not get completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment and control the state's growing demand for electricity and natural gas. For more information call 800.762.7077 or visit [focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com).

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