

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF HENRY COUNTY AND REBUILD KEWANEE (IL)



The **Housing Authority of Henry County (HAHC)** is a charter partner of **Rebuild Kewanee**, a Rebuild America partnership serving the small town of Kewanee in western Illinois. Led by the Kewanee Chamber of Commerce, Rebuild Kewanee is taking a multi-tiered approach to addressing local energy issues and is developing programs and incentives to increase awareness among residents and businesses of the benefits of adopting energy-saving practices.

HAHC is doing its part by making energy-saving improvements to boost the quality of public housing in Kewanee. HAHC is responsible for 465 public housing units in Kewanee. Two-thirds of the housing units in its portfolio were built in 1939. The housing authority is taking a comprehensive approach to modernization plans for its properties by evaluating the mechanical, electrical and architectural design of its buildings, and the performance of such components as roofing and windows, to best determine where to focus its efforts.

Despite limited building improvement funds, the HAHC has managed to implement energy-saving measures and make apartment living more comfortable for many of its residents. As a partner of Rebuild Kewanee, HAHC has implemented a number of energy-efficiency measures in four of its developments since January of 1999.

Every building at the 172-unit Fairview brick property, built in 1936, has received a new boiler system, low volume showerheads and toilets, compact fluorescent lighting fixtures (CFLs), and insulation of domestic hot water lines. New efficient gas ranges with electronic ignition replaced old ranges with pilot lights. Twenty-two



One of HAHC's housing developments

units also received new energy-efficient windows. In fall 2002, new insulation, siding and windows will be installed in the 1952 wood buildings. Interior improvements, including low-flow plumbing fixtures and CFLs are scheduled for spring 2003.

At the 44-unit Lakeland Terrace property, new energy-efficient, frost-free refrigerators were installed. This property, and the Lincoln House Apartments, received new boilers, low-flow plumbing fixtures and CFLs. Additional plans call for replacing older windows with energy-efficient windows at the housing authority's Hollis House.

Rebuild America partners like HAHC continue to play an important role in improving the living environment for residents of public housing.