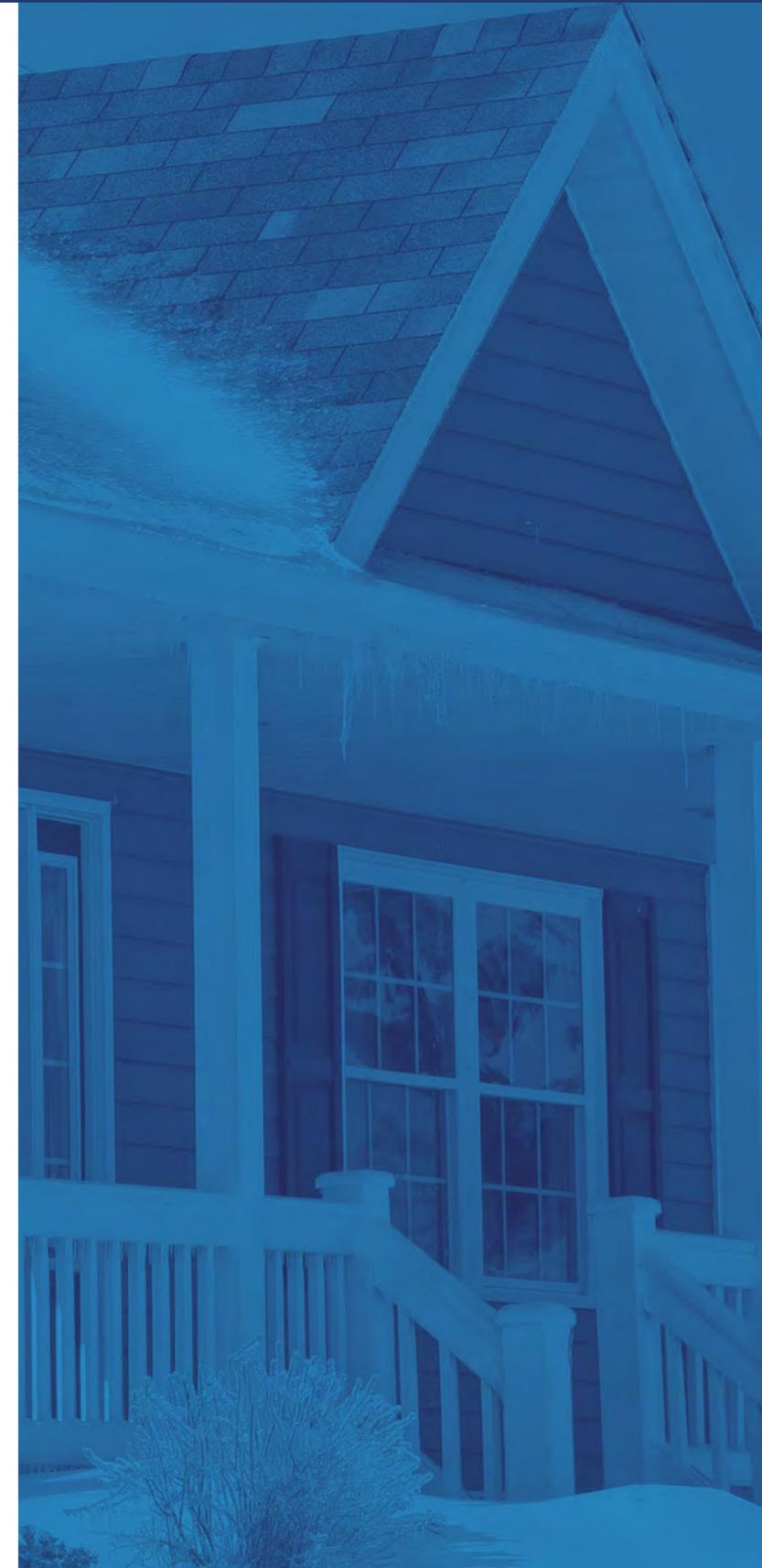


WEATHERIZATION BARRIER REMEDIATION PROGRAM PROPOSAL

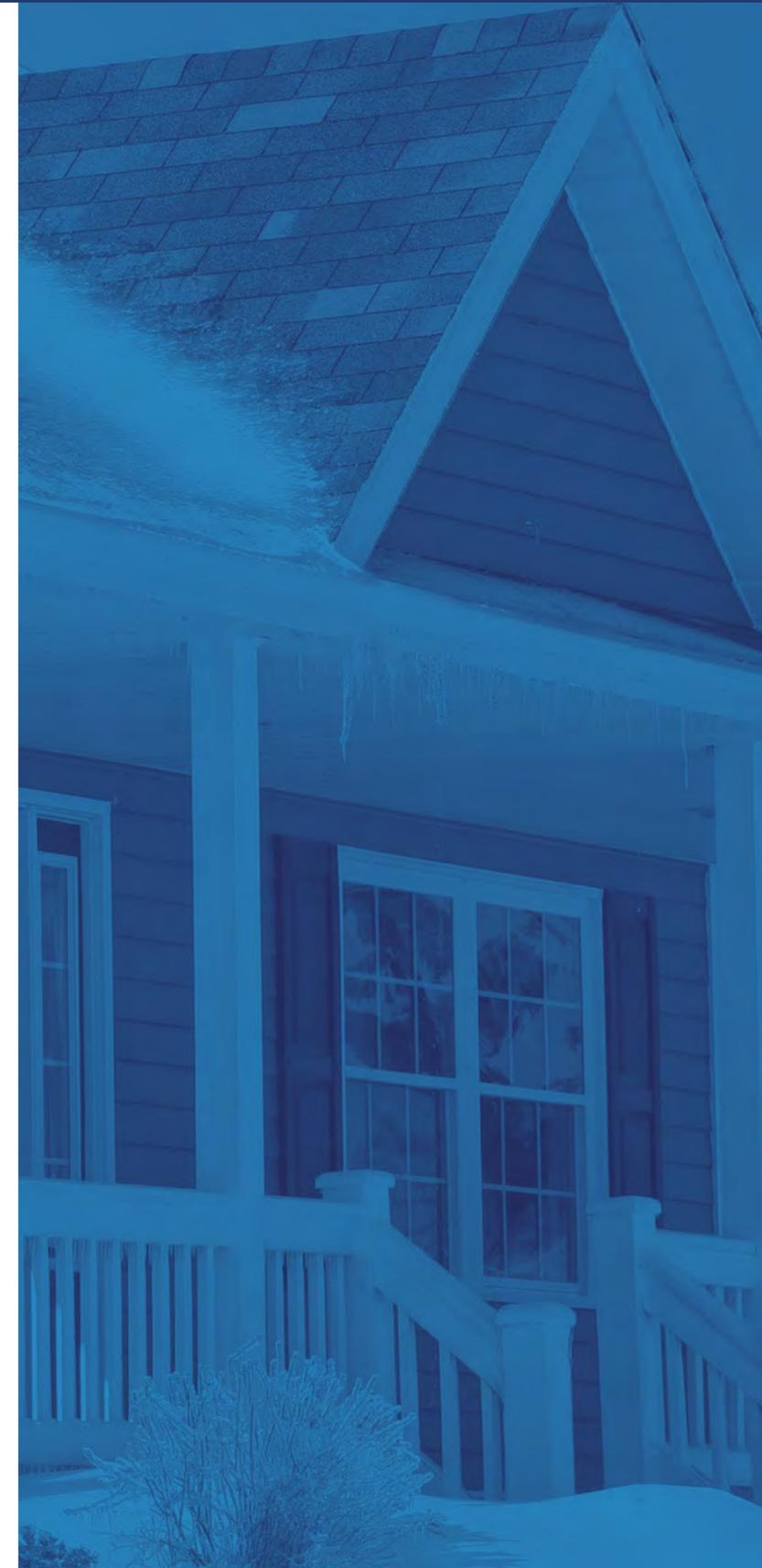
Prepared for the LIEAB Subcommittee

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 11:30 AM



PURPOSE

- **23% of the homes serviced** by CT'S Home Energy Solutions Income-Eligible (HES-IE) program **contain health and safety barriers**
- These barriers defer home from the full suite of HES-IE services and prevent weatherization
- Remediating barriers improves a home's energy efficiency and reduces future energy bills, which in turn **reduces dependence LIHEAP and other programs.**
- Best estimate: **67,000 income-eligible homes** in CT have health and safety barriers preventing HES-IE access

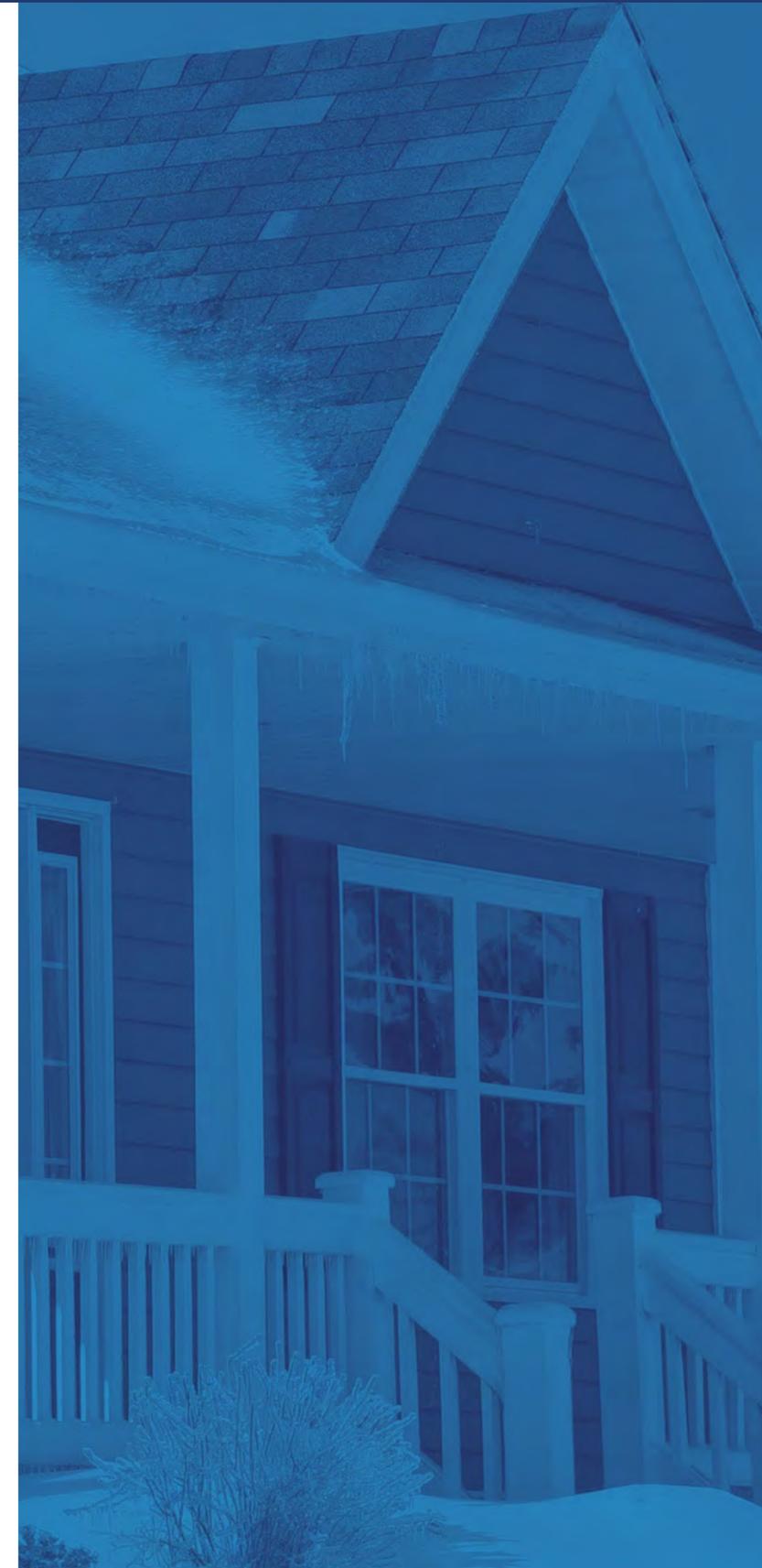


ALLOCATION PROPOSAL

- Allocate an additional amount, up to \$2.0 million, to LIHEAP weatherization, for the purpose of creating a weatherization barrier remediation program

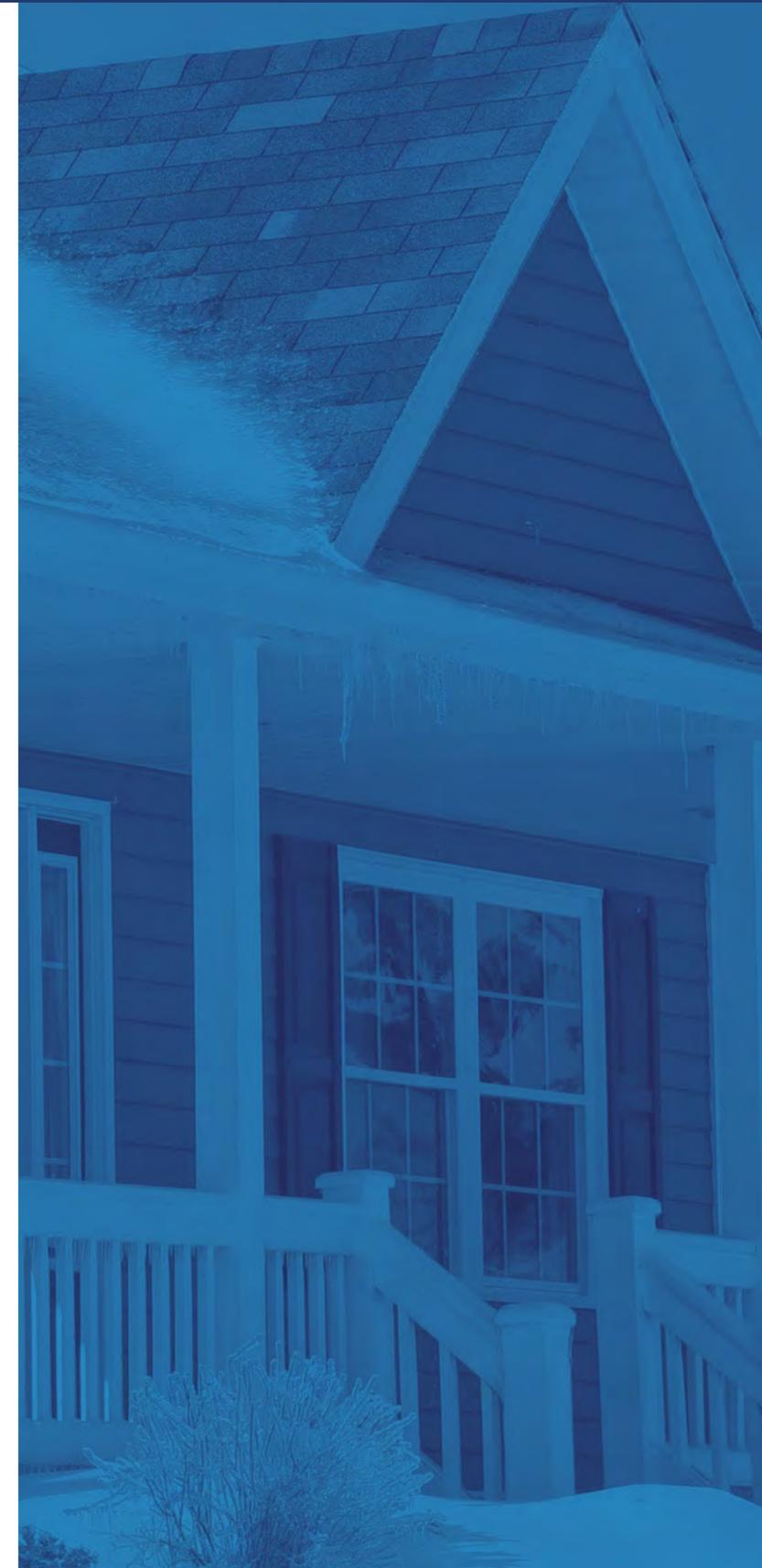
EXPENDITURE PROPOSAL

- DEEP proposes an average expenditure of \$8,000 per home for weatherization barrier work
- Suggests maintaining the current maximum expenditure of \$15,000 established in Connecticut's 2021 LIHEAP Detailed Model Plan



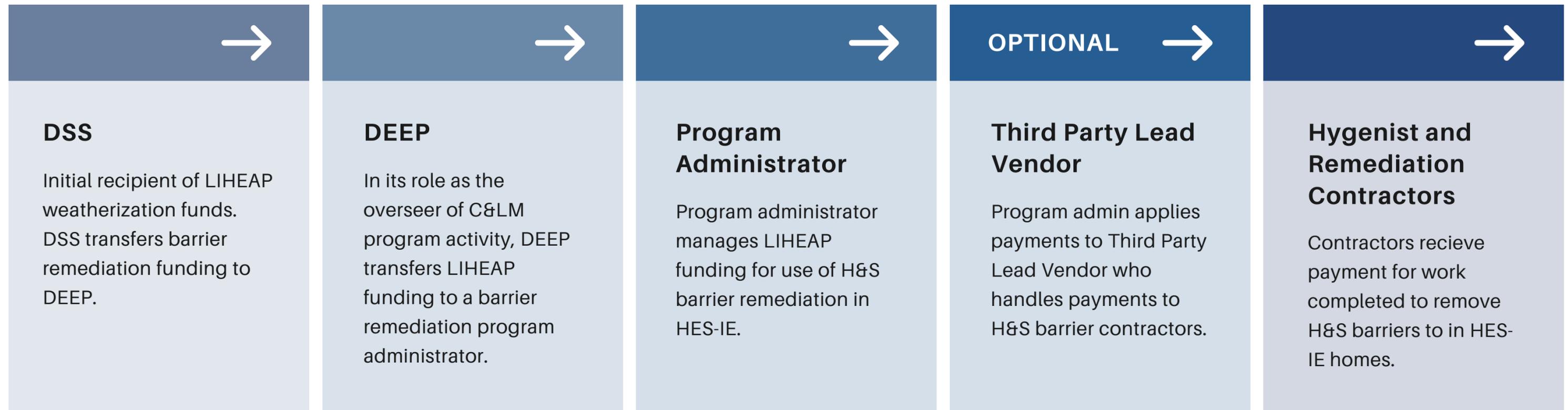
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

- With Connecticut's Department of Social Services as the LIHEAP grantee, DEEP proposes serving as the subgrantee of the weatherization barrier remediation program
- DEEP will develop a process to contract with another entity to support the program



PROPOSED FLOW OF FUNDING

LIHEAP Funding for Health and Safety Barriers to Weatherization



HEALTH AND SAFETY BARRIERS COVERED IN OTHER STATES

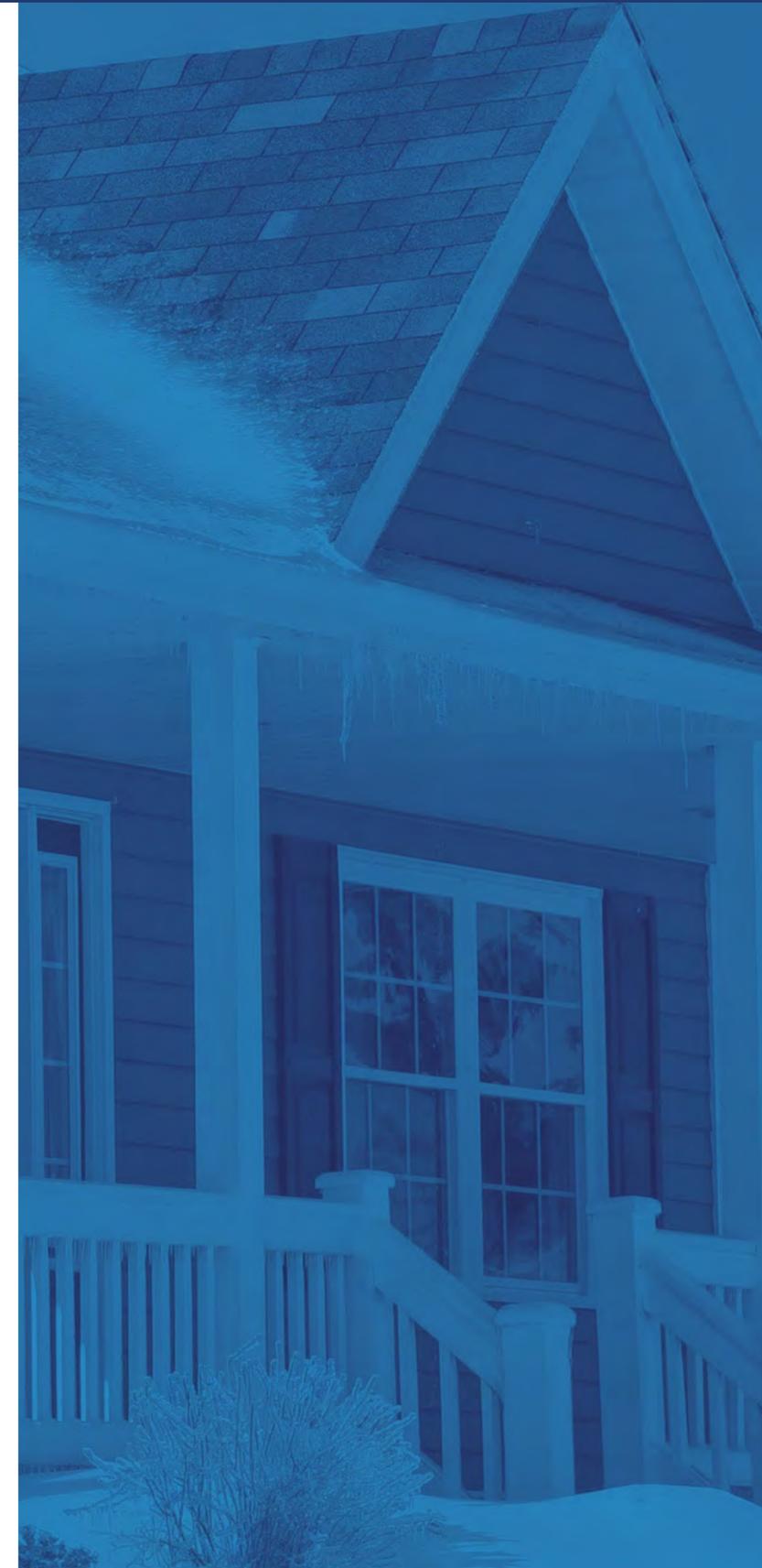
- Knob and tube wiring repairs (PA, VT)
- Exhaust ventilation installation and repair (VT)
- Energy related roof-repairs (with approval, no replacements)* (AL, FL, NH, NY, PA)
- Smoke detectors, CO Detectors, and ventilation (FL, NE, NY, PA, VT, NH, WY)
- Fuel tank replacement (MA)
- Fuel line replacement (MA)
- Chimney liner (MA)
- Asbestos abatement when related to heating system replacement (MA)
- Mold remediation when related to heating system replacement (PA)
- Moisture control (PA)
- Grading* (PA)
- Gutters and downspouts* (FL, PA)
- Drainage system (FL, PA)
- Sump pump installation (PA)
- Pest control* (PA)
- Air exchange issues, filtration, and air quality (KS, OR, PA)
- Radon testing and mitigation (PA)
- Code Compliance* (AL, FL, PA)

*Often limited in practice according to the CT WAP

PROJECTED BENEFITS

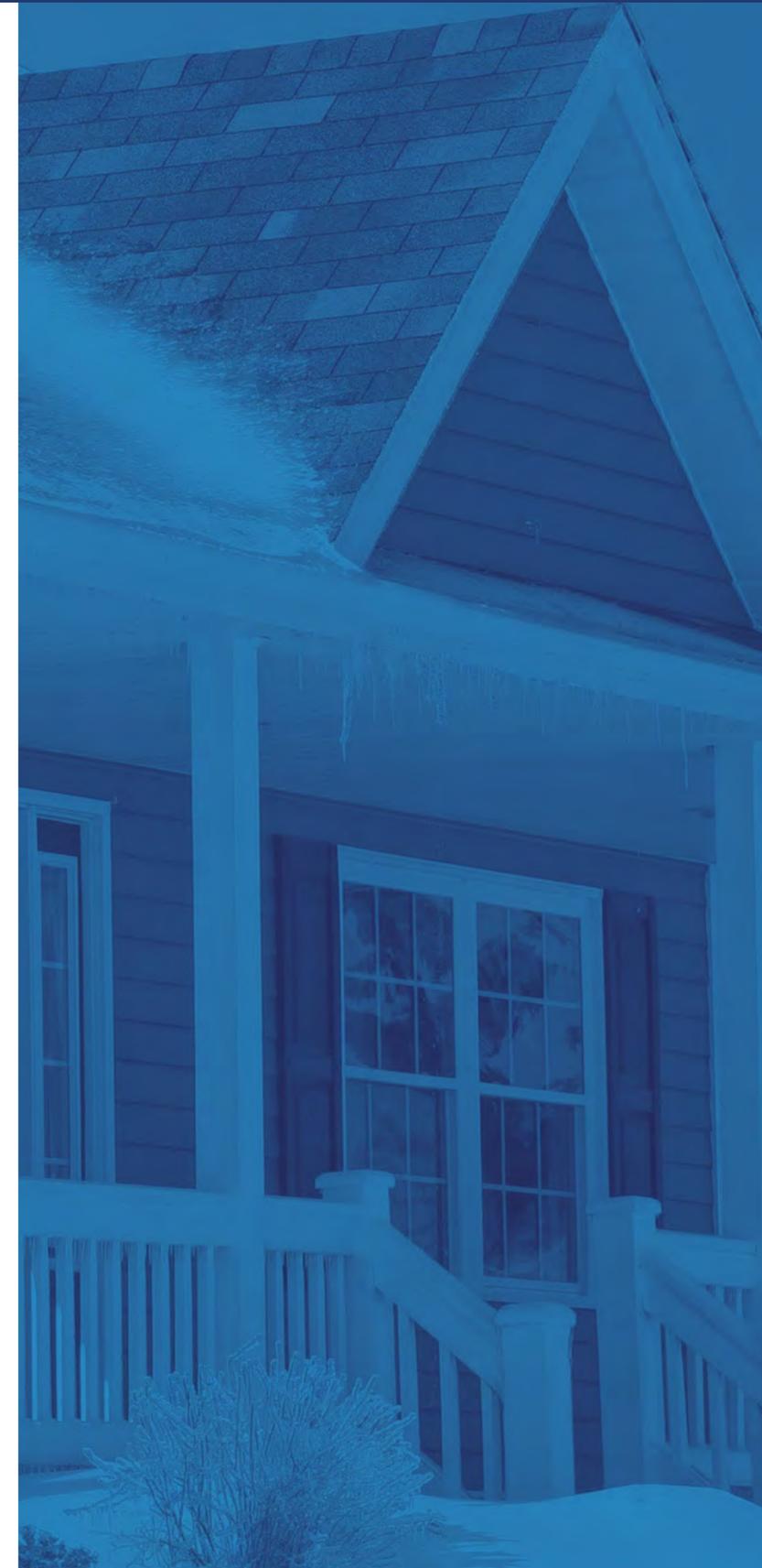
DEEP projects that a \$1.8 million investment in a barrier remediation program has the ability to:

- **Serve approximately 225 homes** in year one
- **Unlock \$1.131 million in HES-IE utility co-investment** for weatherization services including core weatherstripping and sealing services and add-on attic and wall insulation.
- **Generate \$1.680 million in lifetime customer energy cost savings** for income-eligible households
- **Produce an additional \$1.342 million in non-energy benefits** for income-eligible households



ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- DOE's National Evaluation says weatherization returns \$2.78 in non-energy benefits for every \$1.00 invested in the Program, including improved housing conditions and participant health, decreased out-of-pocket medical expenses, and fewer missed days of work from illness and doctor visits
- Weatherized homes reduce extreme cold and heat related mortality and accrue "over \$122,000 and \$153,000 in benefits from reducing heat related and cold-related medical costs, respectfully."



ADDRESSING ADDITIONAL BARRIERS

- Landlord willingness to participate in the program may be a barrier to participation for some renters
- A key benefit of the property owner agreement is its role obtaining landlord buy-in to the program
- DEEP is currently taking steps to better quantify the extent to which the landlord approval process impacts renter participation in HES and HES-IE and to minimize the impacts of this requirement such as:
 - directing the utilities to develop a data collection proposal regarding data collection on rental units that do not proceed due to lack of landlord approval
 - directing utilities to offer a series of roundtables with a variety of landlords on overcoming obstacles to weatherization
 - Directing the utilities to prioritize marketing to those with the largest arrearages and most frequent shutoffs and adding a new secondary metric for increasing participation among those enrolled in payment plan programs
 - Expanding community engagement by providing funding to community groups working with a municipality to increase energy efficiency program participation

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will LIHEAP funds be used to supplement the budget of any utility programs?

No, the sole purpose of the LIHEAP funds is to address health and safety barriers in income-eligible homes that would otherwise be deferred from certain weatherization services

What is a typical HES-IE visit and why do health and safety barriers pose an issue?

Utility-approved technicians evaluate a home's energy performance and install basic weatherization and energy-saving measures

What are the most common health and safety barrier issues?

Asbestos-like material, mold, failed combustion area zone, gas leak, vermiculite, carbon monoxide, failed worst case spillage, and unvented gas appliance



DISCUSSION

30 MINS

