



Department of Commerce

Washington Water Assistance & LIHEAP

Brian Sarensen

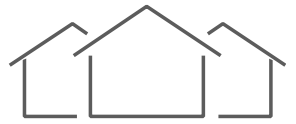
LIHEAP PROGRAM MANAGER

10/8/2021

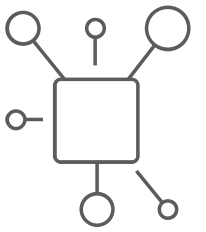




We strengthen communities



HOUSING / HOMELESSNESS



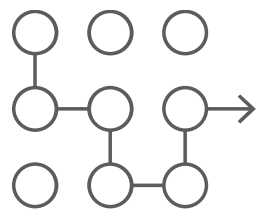
INFRASTRUCTURE



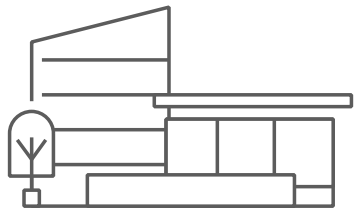
BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



ENERGY



PLANNING



COMMUNITY FACILITIES



CRIME VICTIMS / SAFETY



COMMUNITY SERVICE



Authorized by Congress

- Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, authorized \$638 million
- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated an additional \$500 million in emergency funds



What is Washington Water Assistance and Who is Eligible

- A temporary assistance “safety net”
- For arrearages/past due balances
- Amount needed to bring the account to a zero up to a maximum benefit of \$2,500- to include sewer and drinking water.
- Households with incomes at or below 150% of federal poverty level



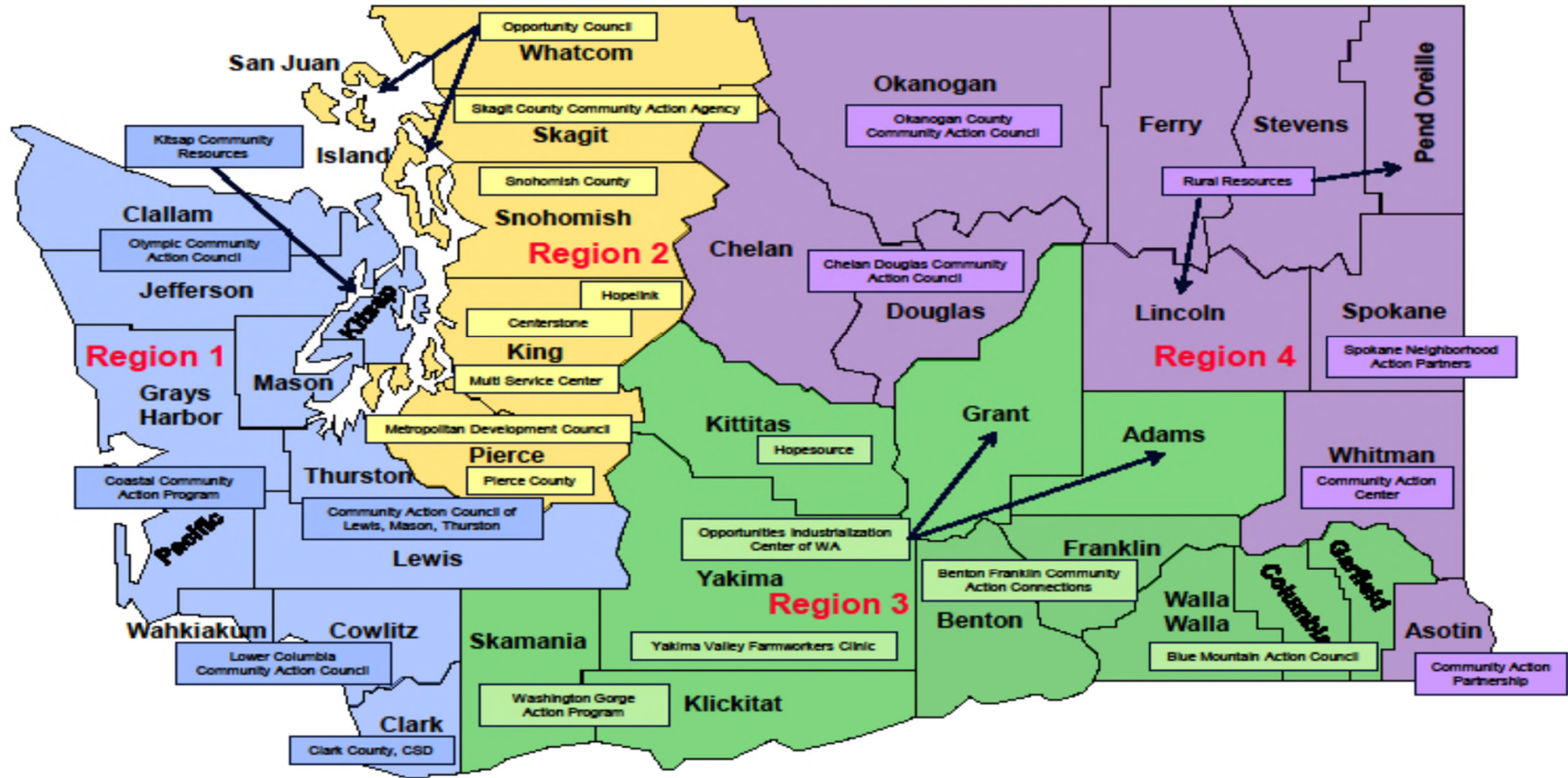
How Does LIHEAP & Washington Water Assistance Work Together?

- If a household is eligible for LIHEAP, they are also eligible for Water Assistance
- If a household is eligible for Water Assistance, they are also eligible for LIHEAP
- One agency for both programs
- One application for both LIHEAP & Water Assistance

EAP Regional Map

Washington State

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program





Agency Contacts

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King County Community Action Agencies

Residents of South King County				
253-517-2263				
mschelps.org				
Multi-Service Center				
98001	98027	98051	98064	98168
98002	98030	98054	98070	98178**
98003	98031	98055	98092	98188
98010	98032	98056	98106*	98198
98013	98038	98057	98146	
98022	38042	98058	98148	
98023	98047	98059	98158	
98025	98050	98063	98166	
*South of Roxbury				
**Outside Seattle city limits				

Residents of North & East King County				
425-658-2592				
hopelink.org/energy				
Hopelink				
98004	98014	98034	98056**	98077***
98005	98015	98039	98059**	98133***
98006	98019	98040	98065	98155
98007	98024	98045	98068	98160
98008	98027	98050	98072	98177
98009	98028	98052	98073	98224
98011	98029	98053	98074	98228
98012*	98033	98055	98075	98294
*King County only				
**Newcastle City Limits				
***North of NE 145th Street				

Residents of Seattle				
206-486-6828				
byrdbarrplace.org				
Byrd Barr				
98101	98107	98117	98126	98177
98102	98108	98118	98133*	98178*
98103	98109	98119	98134	98199
98104	98112	98121	98136	
98105	98115	98122	98144	
98106*	98116	98125	98155	
*Seattle City Limits only				



Where We Are....

- Approval from Federal Funder – 9/15/21
- Federal Funder Releases Direct Service Funds – 10/1/21
- Applications Open – 10/1/21
- Allocation Model – 10/5/21
- Contracts in Review Process – 10/6/21
- Send to Community Action Agencies –



150% Federal Poverty Level

- | Household Size | 150% FPL Annual | 150% FPL Monthly |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | \$19,320 | \$1,610 |
| 2 | \$26,130 | \$2,178 |
| 3 | \$32,940 | \$2,745 |
| 4 | \$39,750 | \$3,313 |
| 5 | \$46,560 | \$3,880 |
| 6 | \$53,370 | \$4,448 |
| 7 | \$60,180 | \$5,015 |
| 8 | \$66,990 | \$5,583 |
| 9 | \$73,800 | \$6,150 |
| 10 | \$80,610 | \$6,718 |



Washington Water Assistance By the Numbers

- Consolidated Appropriations Act - \$11,199,301
- American Recovery Plan - \$8,776,882
- Total Allocation - \$19,976,183
- Allocation
 - Number of Households at or Below 150% FPL
 - Number of Water Connections
 - Number of Sewer Connections
 - Evenly Weighted



LIHEAP Changes

- **LIHEAP has added:**
 - Hardship Benefit of \$500
 - Arrearage Benefit of up to \$2,500
 - Increased Shelter Assistance to \$1,500
 - Increased Repairs to \$7,500
 - Air Conditioners



Current LIHEAP Funding

- **2020 LIHEAP Allocation - \$47 million**
 - Remaining \$0.00
- **LIHEAP CARES Act – 14 million**
 - Remaining \$0.00
- **State LIHEAP CARES Act – 23 million**
 - Remaining – \$0.00
- **2021 LIHEAP Allocation - \$47 million**
 - Remaining - \$28 million
- **Federal ARP Act – \$65 million**
 - Remaining \$60 million



Resources

- Commerce Water Assistance
 - <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/utility-assistance/>

- Commerce Utility Assistance
 - <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/utility-assistance/low-income-household-water-assistance-program-lihwap/>

- Department of Health Water Assistance
 - <https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/WaterSystemAssistance/CustomerAssistanceProgram>

Thank you!

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www.commerce.wa.gov

