

# LIHEAP2016

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## DENVER REGIONAL CONFERENCE

### AGENDA

#### Day 1

9:00 am – 9:15 am

#### **OCS Welcome and Introduction**

Description: Greetings and welcome to the 2016 regional conference!

Speaker: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

9:15 am – 10:15 am

#### **Evaluation of Assurance 16 Programs**

Description: APPRISE will show you how to ensure that you have the data that you need to report the inputs, outputs, and outcomes of your Assurance 16 activities and will furnish a model for measuring Assurance 16 program impacts.

Moderators: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Kate Thomas, Program Analyst, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Melissa Torgerson, APPRISE*

10:15 am – 10:30 am

#### **Break**

10:30 am – 11:30 am

#### **State Track: Grantee Experiences with Delivered Fuel Vendors**

Description: This session will discuss the experiences of LIHEAP State grantees in collecting and reporting energy expenditure data from delivered fuel vendors, including best practices for reaching out to vendors, gaining cooperation, setting up data collection procedures, and processing data.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speaker: *Melissa Torgerson, APPRISE*

#### **Tribal Track: Working With Deliverable Fuel Vendors**

Description: During this session, we will discuss vendors, checking quality and quantity, and reconciling multiple deliveries with the total benefit amounts.

Moderator: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Iris Curtis, Auditor, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Kate Thomas, Program Analyst, Division of Energy Assistance*



ADMINISTRATION FOR

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Lunch Break**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Obligations vs. Expenditures**

Description: Obligations, refunds, carryover, expenditures, and what you need to know and understand about them.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Iris Curtis, Auditor, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Monitoring Trends**

Description: Based on outcomes from site visits and reviews of LIHEAP plans, this session will discuss trends and be specific to each region. Lessons learned, drawdown vs. obligations, mixed status households, etc. will all be covered.

Moderator: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Kate Thomas, Program Analyst, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Iris Curtis, Auditor, Division of Energy Assistance*

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

**Break**

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm

**Networking**

Description: Learn about the Peer-to-Peer Mentorship Program and talk to other LIHEAP grantees. This is your opportunity to learn from other States and Tribes and hear what is going on with their programs. All are encouraged to attend and participate!

## Day 2

9:00 am – 10:00 am

### **State Track: Reporting**

Description: This session will show the linkages among the Model Plan, the Household Report, the Performance Data Form, and the Carryover and Reallotment Report, and will help State grantees understand how to maintain consistency among this set of reports.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speaker: *Melissa Torgerson, APPRISE*

### **Tribal Track: Tribal Reporting**

Description: This session will cover required LIHEAP reporting for Tribes, including the Model Plan, Household Report Short Form, and the Carryover and Reallotment Report. It will go over what to request from your finance staff, and what it means to have reallotment and how those funds should be treated in the HHS Payment Management System.

Moderator: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Iris Curtis, Auditor, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Kate Thomas, Program Analyst, Division of Energy Assistance*

10:00 am – 11:00 am

### **ACF Capabilities to Support States, Tribes, and Territories in Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery**

Description: During this session, we will discuss LIHEAP policies and have the ACF Office of Disaster Management share their best practices.

Moderator: *Kate Thomas, Program Analyst, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Commander Harvey Ball, Senior Program Analyst/Team Lead for Operations, U.S. Public Health Service*

*Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

11:00 am – 11:15 am

### **Break**

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

### **Community Solar Partnerships**

Description: Learn about the possibilities of community solar projects and how LIHEAP can play a role in making solar available to low-income communities.

Moderator: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Jason Coughlin, Project Leader, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)*

*Tom Figel, Policy & Regulatory Manager, Grid Alternatives*

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

### **Lunch Break**

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

**State Track: Performance Management**

Description: In this session, State grantees will learn how to use LIHEAP performance data from the Data Warehouse to document current program outcomes and identify ways to make programmatic changes that improve targeting to high-burden and vulnerable households.

Moderator: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speaker: *Melissa Torgerson, APPRISE*

**Tribal Track: Policy Discussion**

Description: This will be an open discussion on the policy manuals and other related policy questions.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speaker: *Iris Curtis, Auditor, Division of Energy Assistance*

*Kate Thomas, Program Analyst, Division of Energy Assistance*

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm

**Break**

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**LIHEAP Virtual Library**

Description: Grantees will have an opportunity to get an in-depth look at the brand new virtual library. Learn about new resources, provide feedback, and get to know this valuable tool.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speaker: *Heather Jones, LIHEAP Manager, Missouri Department of Social Services*

*Melissa Torgerson, APPRISE*

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Roundtables**

Description: Open session for State and Tribal grantees to talk with one another on different topics.

## Day 3

8:30 am – 9:30 am

### **Energy Security, Indoor Temperatures, and Health**

Description: This session will cover how indoor temperatures can impact health and the role LIHEAP can play in addressing such health and safety issues.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speaker: *Jonathan White, Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives, Administration for Children and Families (ACF)*

9:30 am – 9:45 am

### **Break**

9:45 am – 10:45 am

### **Local Agencies**

Description: This session will include grantees discussing their experiences from the trenches. We will cover the Federal perspective from OCS with expectations and responsibilities. Grantee speakers from each region will talk about their experiences in terms of turning agencies around, recompeting contracts, technical assistance, and capacity building.

Moderator: *Akm Rahman, Operations Branch Chief, Division of Energy Assistance*

Speakers: *Iris Curtis, Auditor, Division of Energy Assistance*

*John Harvanko, Director, Office of Energy Assistance Programs, Minnesota Department of Commerce*

10:45 am – 11:45 am

### **Closing Remarks**

Description: A final review of the conference and thank you for all attendees.

Speaker: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

11:45 am – 12 noon

### **Open Q&A With the HHS**

Description: Based on questions received from grantees in advance of the regional conference, the OCS team will conduct this open question-and-answer session with attendees.

Moderator: *Lauren Christopher, Director, Division of Energy Assistance*

12 noon – 4:00 pm

### **One-on-One Consultations for Grantees**

Description: OCS and APPRISE staff will be available for 30-minute consultations with grantees. Meetings will need to be scheduled in advance by contacting OCS.