***Funds available for owner-occupied housing rehabilitation***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Township residents may be eligible for funds to rehabilitate homes they own and live in through a new program coordinated through the Westmoreland County Housing Authority Weatherization Program. The Westmoreland County Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program will use funds made available through the 2012 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Fund and the Marcellus Shale Impact Fees.

Westmoreland County is just one of 19 counties in the state receiving funds to improve the availability and affordability of housing in the Marcellus Shale region of the state. The program will be first offered to residents in those townships in Westmoreland County most impacted by Marcellus Shale drilling activity including Derry, Hempfield, Sewickley, South Huntingdon and Washington Townships. If there are no applicants from those townships, funding will be extended to other parts of the county.

Eligibility is based on where you live in Westmoreland County, household income, and owning and living in a home that needs to be rehabilitated.

Rehabilitation assistance will be targeted to homes that are code deficient and may need a new roof, rewiring, plumbing fixtures, new HVAC, or help with water damage.

Income eligibility is based on the county’s annual median income (AMI). A portion of the grant is required to be expended on households with annual incomes below 50% of AMI. The balance of funds can be used for households with an annual income of up to 200% of the AMI.

For more details about the program, contact the Westmoreland County Housing Authority Weatherization Program at 724.832.9460. Interested residents will need to complete a standard rehabilitation application form, provide income verification and demonstrate the ability to repay loans.

Details about the program and an application form are available online at [www.AffordableHomesWestmoreland.com](http://www.AffordableHomesWestmoreland.com).