



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Energy Efficiency Program to Help Kansans Reduce Fuel Costs

Topeka, KS - Nov. 20, 2006 - The Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) has launched a statewide initiative to promote energy conservation and reduce home heating costs. The initiative is the [Kansas Energy Efficiency Program](#), or KEEP, which allows income-eligible homeowners to obtain low interest loans to purchase energy efficient heating systems and to make other energy conservation home improvements.

“The most effective way to help homeowners reduce skyrocketing heating bills is to help them save energy,” said Christine Reimler, KHRC’s Homeownership Manager. “KEEP provides immediate assistance to Kansans who need it most, and encourages homeowners to make long-lasting, energy conscious improvements to their homes.”

Funding for KEEP is \$2 million and is part of Governor Kathleen Sebelius’ Warm Homes Project. KHRC funds half of the loan amounts, up to a maximum of \$7500. Total loan amounts could be higher as determined by the lender. The zero interest rate on KHRC funds translates into a lower blended rate than obtained through a normal second mortgage loan. KEEP begins immediately and will continue as funding is available.

“This is a great way to help Kansans keep costs down, stay warm through the winter and conserve energy,” Sebelius said. “I hope many Kansas families consider this as an option.”

KHRC is pleased to announce that Sunflower Bank, a family-owned bank with 34 locations throughout Kansas and Colorado, is the official lender for KEEP. “Sunflower Bank is committed to the support of energy efficiency throughout our communities and the state of Kansas. We are extremely honored to be the official lender of KEEP,” said Mollie Carter, President & CEO of Sunflower Bank.

Home improvements allowed under KEEP include:

- Installing specified ENERGY STAR furnaces, central air conditioners, heat pumps, water heaters and ventilation systems.
- Installing wall & floor insulation, new doors and windows and weather-stripping.
- Air sealing, duct work and the purchase of certain ENERGY STAR appliances such as refrigerators, washers, dryers, dish washers and programmable thermostats.

For more information about KEEP, interested applicants should contact Sunflower Bank directly at (888) 827-5564 or visit the bank’s website at www.sunflowerbank.com. Certain restrictions apply to KEEP improvements. Applicants should consult [KHRC’s website](#) for details.

KHRC’s mission is to enhance Kansas communities with housing opportunities using a variety of strategies and approaches, including increasing homeownership opportunities, promoting energy efficiency improvements for owner-occupied and rental housing and providing affordable housing through rent assistance to low-income families and senior citizens.

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