



CRHMFA Homebuyers Fund
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Member Counties

Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Imperial, Inyo, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, San Benito, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, Yuba

NEWS RELEASE

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LOAN AND GRANTS HELP HOMEOWNERS MAKE ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

(CALIFORNIA) CRHMFA Homebuyers Fund (CHF) is now accepting financial assistance applications from Placer, El Dorado, Yuba and Sutter County homeowners interested in making energy efficiency improvements to their home as part of the CHF Residential Energy Retrofit Program.

The program provides financial assistance to eligible homeowners in the form of a three-percent fixed interest rate, 15-year fully amortizing loan from CHF. Upon qualifying for the CHF loan, the homeowner will also be eligible for a grant from CHF, up to \$1,250, to help reduce the overall project cost and additional grants from CHF to cover the home performance inspections at the beginning and end of the project.

"Many people strive to be energy efficient, but affordability is essential," says CHF Vice President Craig Ferguson. "The energy savings coupled with the low interest rate CHF loan and grants can make upgrading one's home within reach for many homeowners."

All retrofit projects funded through the program will be designed to result in energy savings to the recipient while focusing on the concept of whole-house performance. Projects will address all of the home's energy-using features which can result in not just energy savings, but improved comfort, indoor air quality, combustion safety and even noise reduction. Replacing windows, sealing air spaces, super-insulating existing walls, floors, ceiling or roof and upgrading heating and cooling equipment are just a few examples of the energy efficiency measures funded through the program.

Qualifying homeowners must be current on their mortgage and property taxes. All individuals on the property title must qualify for the CHF Loan and their combined income must meet the Program income limits listed by county. Other restrictions and guidelines apply. Interested homeowners are directed to contact CHF for more information or to apply for the program.

During 2011, CHF will expand the energy efficiency program to all 30 CHF member counties and begin providing grants to people purchasing or refinancing a home in conjunction with work done as part of a rehab loan or other energy efficiency mortgage. Updates will be published on the CHF website www.chfloan.org.

The energy efficiency program is funded through a \$16.5 million grant awarded to CHF by the California Energy Commission State Energy Program as part of the federal stimulus American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. CHF is contributing an additional \$2 million of its own funds to the program. The program is also structured to create new jobs for local construction, and energy efficiency measure installation and verification trades.

CRHMFA (California Rural Home Mortgage Finance Authority) Homebuyers Fund—or CHF—is a California government entity with 30 member counties who are also members of the non-profit Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC). CHF has supported affordable home ownership for Californians for over 16 years, providing homebuyers with mortgage loan programs featuring low interest rates and downpayment and/or closing cost assistance. Since its founding, CHF has helped nearly 37,000 families and individuals to purchase homes.

For more information or to apply, please contact CHF toll-free at (855) 740-8422 or visit www.chfloan.org.