



"INSULATE! DAY"

PROCLAMATION

- Whereas,** the **City of Asheville** has long recognized the plight of low-income families and individuals in meeting their home energy needs; and,
- Whereas,** NC households with incomes below 50% of the national poverty level pay 59.3% of their annual income on their energy bills. Homes built ten or more years ago consume up to 60% more energy than newer homes. And, heating and cooling account for 50 to 70% of the energy used in the average American home; and,
- Whereas,** there are over 44,000 homes in Buncombe County, North Carolina containing families that fall 150 percent or more below the national poverty level; and,
- Whereas,** Warren Wilson College developed a model weatherization assistance program, INSULATE!, with its *Mountain Green* partners the Asheville Home Builders Association, Buncombe County Council on Aging, The City of Asheville and Progress Energy, delivering through the Community Action Opportunities cost-effective and free, permanent solutions for reducing the heavy energy burden on low-income citizens; and,
- Whereas,** the partners of INSULATE! consider weatherization a vital part of its overall effort to help people of low income gain energy-efficient, affordable, and safe housing, and other basic necessities that enable them to advance socially and economically; and
- Whereas,** the INSULATE! program not only saves energy through advanced technologies to improve the energy affordability for low-income families, but also saves lives, improves the health and safety of families by identifying carbon monoxide hazards, poor indoor air quality, and mold, and improves the natural environment by lowering the demand for natural resources; and,
- Whereas,** the INSULATE! program not only assists families working toward self-sufficiency, but also contributes more broadly to the improvements and progress of communities by eliminating carbon emissions, stimulating local economies through the purchase of goods and services, and stabilizing neighborhoods; and
- Whereas,** INSULATE! galvanizes higher education, federal and state agencies, private partners and municipal leadership to respond to this need. It attends to economic, environmental, and equity issues and embodies, in every way, sustainable community action.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, **Terry Bellamy, Mayor of the City of Asheville**, do hereby proclaim October 30, 2008 as:

INSULATE! DAY

in the **City of Asheville** and encourage participation in this program to deliver cost-effective, advanced technologies, to increase energy savings in each home served, to leverage state, local, and private resources to make each federal dollar work harder, and to heighten the awareness of energy efficiency in communities throughout the state.

Signed 28 day of October 2008.

Mayor Terry Bellamy

