

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

CHIPPEWA CREE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Chippewa Cree Rocky Boy's Reservation (Chippewa Cree) Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$135,541 in FY21. The Tribe utilizes LIHWAP grant funds to provide emergency assistance to enable low-income households to access water and wastewater services.

Program Operation

The Chippewa Cree's LIHWAP, which began in January 2022, is managed and operated at the Tribal level in coordination with other programs available to low-income households. The Chippewa Cree's LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **two priority groups**:

- Households without water or wastewater services
- Households with existing arrearages to prevent service disconnection

Program staff conduct outreach activities, determine client eligibility and process benefit payments to water service providers.

FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



AMOUNT

TOTAL: \$135,541

- ARP: \$53,868
- CAA: \$81,673



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

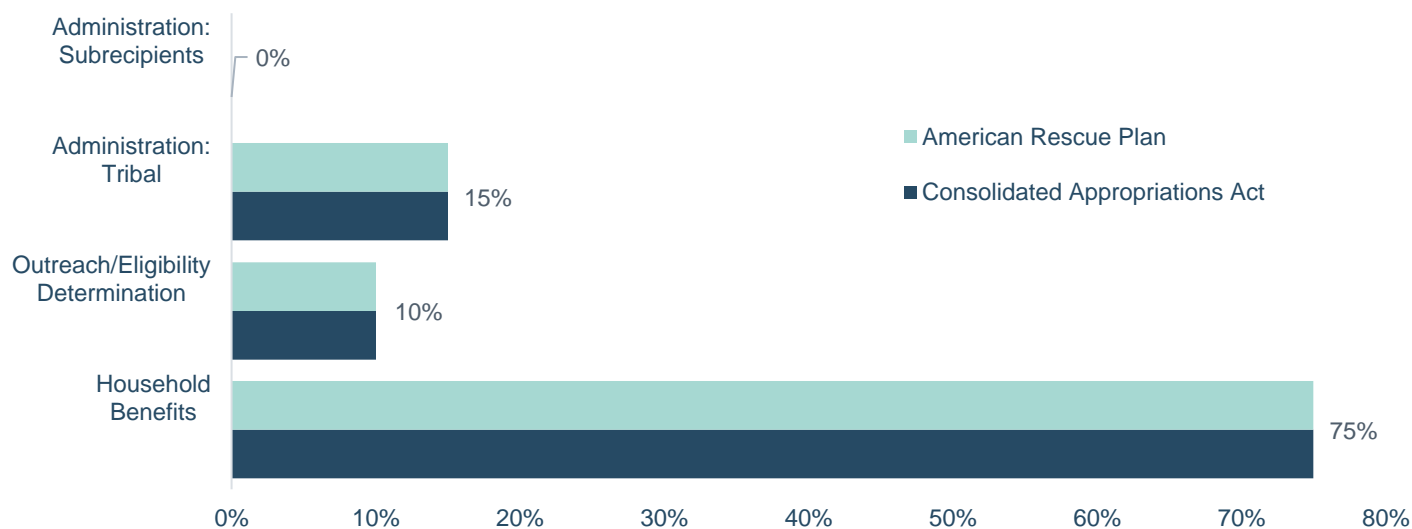
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages



PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Joint application for LIHEAP and LIHWAP
- Intake referrals to/from other programs

Use of Funding by Funding Source



Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Tribe's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$650 in benefit assistance on a monthly basis while program funds are available. Agency staff use a benefit matrix to determine client eligibility.

Priority Populations

Households that meet program eligibility criteria **and** fall in one of the following categories receive priority assistance in the processing of their applications.

- ✓ People with disabilities
- ✓ Families with young children
- ✓ Older Adult/Seniors (60+)
- ✓ Households with high water burden

Program Outreach Activities

- Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, Veterans Affairs, etc.
- Publication of articles or public service announcements in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.
- Work directly with water utilities to identify potential recipients.
- Inclusion of inserts in water vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of LIHWAP assistance.
- Multi-lingual announcements in languages spoken by low-income households within utility service area and/or notification in ethnic language news and broadcast media outlets.
- Inform low-income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHWAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.
- Execute interagency agreements with other low-income program offices and/or public health pathways created for COVID-19 outreach to perform outreach to target groups.
- Outreach to faith-based institutions, including those serving low-income people and people of color.

Eligibility and Benefit Determination Criteria

Title	Item
Income Threshold	
	150% Federal Poverty Guideline
✓	60% State Median Income
	Hybrid Federal and State (based on household size)
Categorical Eligibility	
✓	LIHEAP
	Means-tested Veterans Programs
	Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)
	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
Eligible Households	
✓	Homeowners
✓	Renters
Benefit Level Determination*	
✓	Income
✓	Household size
✓	Household drinking water burden
✓	Household wastewater burden
Benefit Amount	
\$350	Minimum
\$650	Maximum
Benefit Period	
	One Time
✓	Multiple

*Grant recipients are required to determine a benefit level for households seeking assistance with their current water and wastewater bills. Benefit level determination is based on household income, size, and drinking water and wastewater burden.

For more information about the Chippewa Cree LIHWAP, contact:

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