

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

KARUK TRIBE LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Karuk Tribe's Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$28,135 in FY21. The Karuk Tribe will work with local water and wastewater districts to reduce water and wastewater bills of qualifying households and individuals. This is accomplished by restoration of household water services, reducing arrearages for household water bills, and reducing rates charged for household water services.

Households in the Tribe have the greatest need for assistance with paying past due water and wastewater bills.

Program Operation

The Karuk Tribe's LIHWAP, which began in November 2021, is managed and operated at the Tribal level. LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **three priority groups**:

- Households whose water and wastewater services have been disconnected
- Households facing the threat of disconnection of their water and wastewater services
- Households with existing arrearages (high water burden)

Clients can stop by any of the offices (clinics, TANF, Housing Office) in any of the Tribe's three different communities to pick up an application. The Low Income Assistance Program (LIAP) Coordinator provides on-site assistance and assistance over the phone with completing and submitting applications.

FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



AMOUNT

TOTAL: \$28,135

- ARP: \$11,180
- CAA: \$16,955



OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

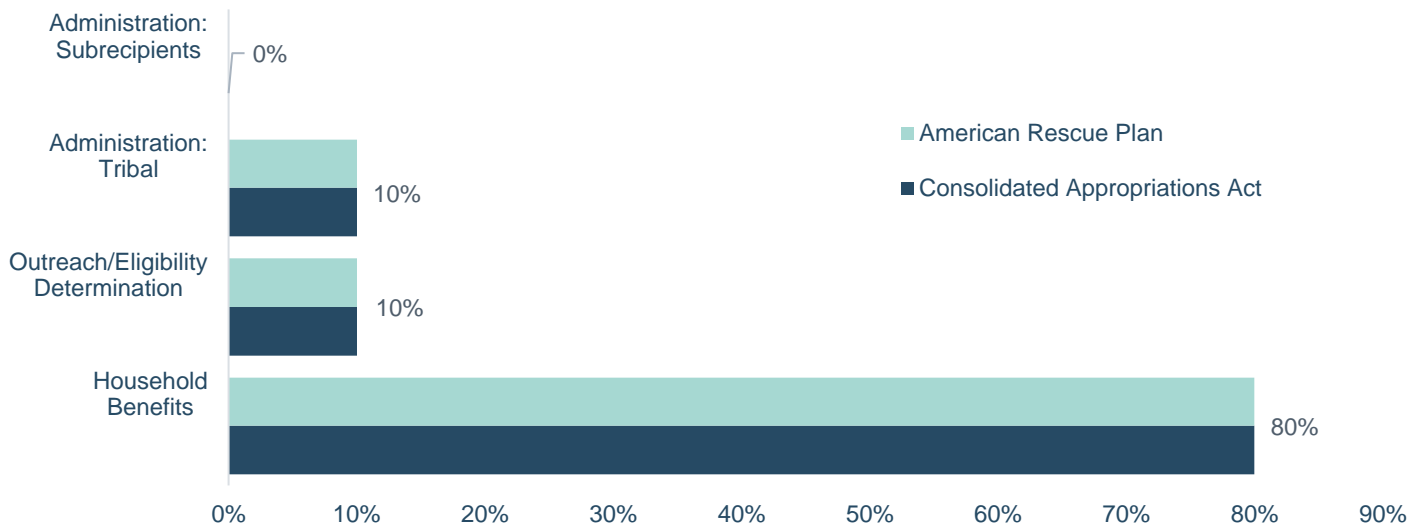
- Restoration of services
- Payment of arrearages
- Rate reductions



PROGRAM COORDINATION

- Yav Pa Anav (the Medicine is Good) working group to streamline care and access to services

Use of Funding by Funding Source



Benefits on Behalf of Households

Under the Karuk Tribe's administration of the program, eligible households may receive up to \$500 in financial assistance to pay the account balance, past due arrears, or disconnection and reconnection fees. Program staff use applicants' income and household size to determine the benefit amount.

Priority Populations

Households that meet program eligibility criteria, have an enrolled Tribal member or Tribal member child residing in the home, **and** fall in one of the following categories are prioritized and their applications are processed first.

- ✓ 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.
- Inform low-income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHWAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.

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
\$500	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 Karuk Tribe LIHWAP, contact:

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