

# Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

## SITKA TRIBE OF ALASKA LIHWAP PROFILE SUMMARY



The Sitka Tribe's Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is funded at \$94,461 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 Sitka Tribe's LIHWAP, which began in April 2022, is managed and operated at the Tribal level in coordination with other programs available to low-income households. The Sitka Tribe's LIHWAP provides relief assistance to **three priority groups**:

- Households without current water services
- Households that require clean water when pipes freeze
- Households that require financial assistance to pay the fees required to unfreeze pipes

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

### FY21 LIHWAP FUNDING ALLOCATION



#### AMOUNT

**TOTAL: \$94,461**

- ARP: \$37,550
- CAA: \$56,911



#### OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

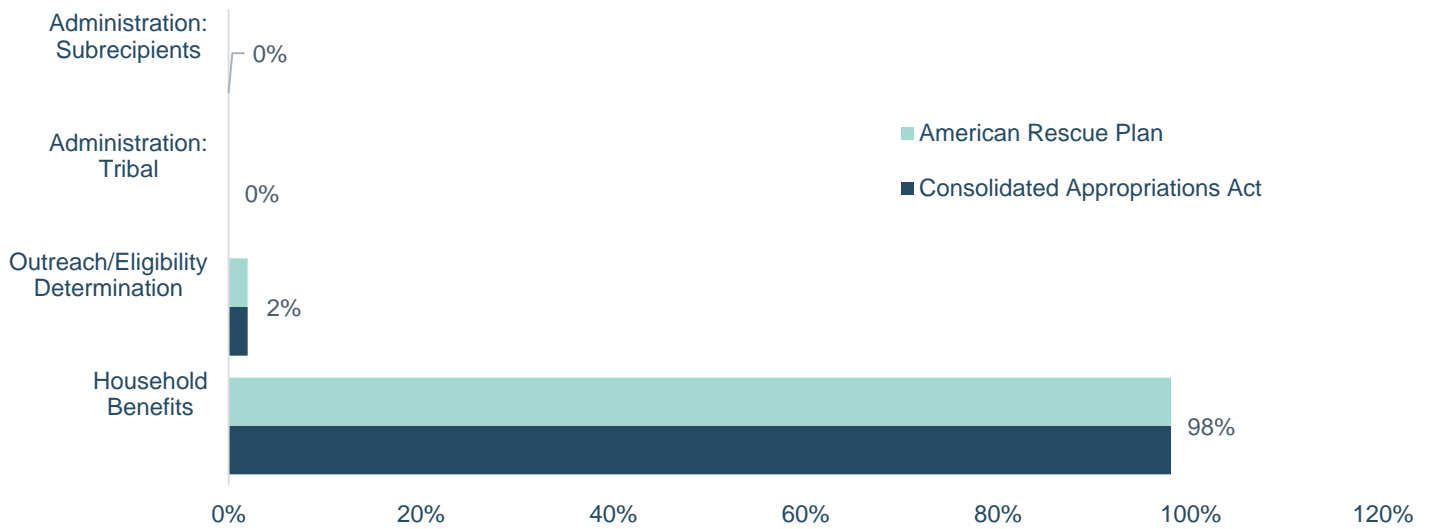
- Restoration of services



#### PROGRAM COORDINATION

- One application for LIHEAP and LIHWAP and streamlined intake process to determine program eligibility without requiring multiple applications.

### 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 \$1,625 in benefits.

### Priority Populations

Households that meet program eligibility criteria **and** fall in one of the following categories receive priority and their applications are processed two weeks of receipt.

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

Applications from all other households, including households with high water burden, are processed within 30 days.

### 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.
- Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients or recipients of other government benefits.
- Automated phone campaigns and/or social media outreach.
- 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	
\$275	Minimum
\$1625	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 Sitka Tribe LIHWAP, contact:

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