**Income Qualified Program Principles Policy - LIEEAC Collaboration and Partnering**

Each Program Administrator (PA) shall encourage continued collaboration and effective partnering with Community Action Agencies (CAA) and Community Based Organizations (CBO), through direct engagement or through engagement with their regional Low Income Energy Efficiency Accountability Committee (LIEEAC). Effective collaboration and partnering between PA's and their regional LIEEAC are intended to:

1. Encourage CAA and CBO capacity building
2. Expand use of local and diverse energy efficiency businesses
3. Engage CAA's and CBO's on recommendations and practices that impact their communities

Collaboration between PA's and their regional LIEEAC shall be conducted in a manner that allows meaningful engagement and input by CAA's and CBO's. PA's shall promote effective collaboration by observing the following principles:

1. Engage with their regional LIEEAC to encourage CAA and CBO capacity building through the development of capabilities, knowledge and skills that allow effectively serving their communities when implementing low-income energy efficiency programs and measures.
2. Engage with their regional LIEEAC to expand energy efficiency trade allies and contractors serving low-income communities that are based in and represent residents of those communities.
3. Acknowledgement of the expertise of CAA and CBO representatives, understanding that community representatives are experts in local communities and associated challenges within their communities. Knowledge and input shared by community representatives will be valued, considered in decision making and provided equal weight to input from other parties where appropriate. Regardless of whether a matter is raised in the LIEEAC, the Illinois Energy Efficiency Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG), or a Technical Reference Manual Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) working group, representatives of those communities shall be provided an opportunity to be heard in a meaningful way.