



### **Editorial Backgrounder**

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### **Media Contact:**

Chris Demeropolis  
(513) 271-7222 ext. 25  
cdemeropolis@wordsworthweb.com

## **People Working Cooperatively (PWC) Company Backgrounder**

### **Who is PWC?**

Incorporated in 1975, People Working Cooperatively is a unique, nonprofit organization serving low-income, elderly, and disabled homeowners in 20 counties of Southwestern Ohio, Northern Kentucky and Indiana. PWC strengthens communities by providing professional, critical home repair, energy conservation, modification, and maintenance services to help residents stay safely in their homes.

PWC's "Whole House" strategy to home repair allows the organization to supply more than 13,000 services annually to homeowners unable to adequately care for their homes. PWC's services are critical, not cosmetic, focusing on very basic living essentials that keep a home safe and habitable – like heat, running water, working toilets and solid roofing. When possible, PWC helps homeowners become more self-sufficient in the care of their home.

### **How did PWC begin?**

The story began with two men, a telephone, a desk and a dream. From a garage in Covington, Kentucky, two employees and a small volunteer administration team set out to provide low-income households with minor home repair and weatherization services. During the year following its inception, PWC helped 43 low-income homeowners.

After just 10 years of service, PWC had changed the lives and saved the homes of more than 5,000 Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky residents. Now in its 37<sup>th</sup> year, PWC has proudly provided 250,000 services to eligible clients, who on average earn about \$13,000 a year. Typically, these individuals face challenges due to illness, disability, job loss or other circumstances.

### **Who supports PWC?**

PWC is supported by a robust group of more than 125 licensed, professionally trained staff members and administrative personnel. Its dedicated corps of 6,000-plus volunteers makes it one of the largest volunteer corps in the region. Community members are invited to join PWC's cause by participating in a number of volunteer opportunities throughout the year. This growing list of events includes Repair Affair, held each May to recuperate from the long winter months, and Prepare Affair, held each November to help clients prepare for the approaching winter.

PWC is funded by local municipalities, businesses, organizations, foundations and individual donors. Its loyal roster of sponsors support the organization's annual fundraising initiatives, including Cincinnati's only official Oscar Night® America party.