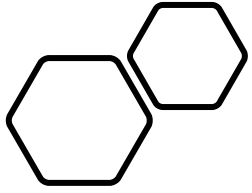




SAVE ENERGY, SAVE THE PLANET



Interreligious Eco-Justice Network &
American Baptist Conference of Connecticut
Energy Efficiency Programs in 2023

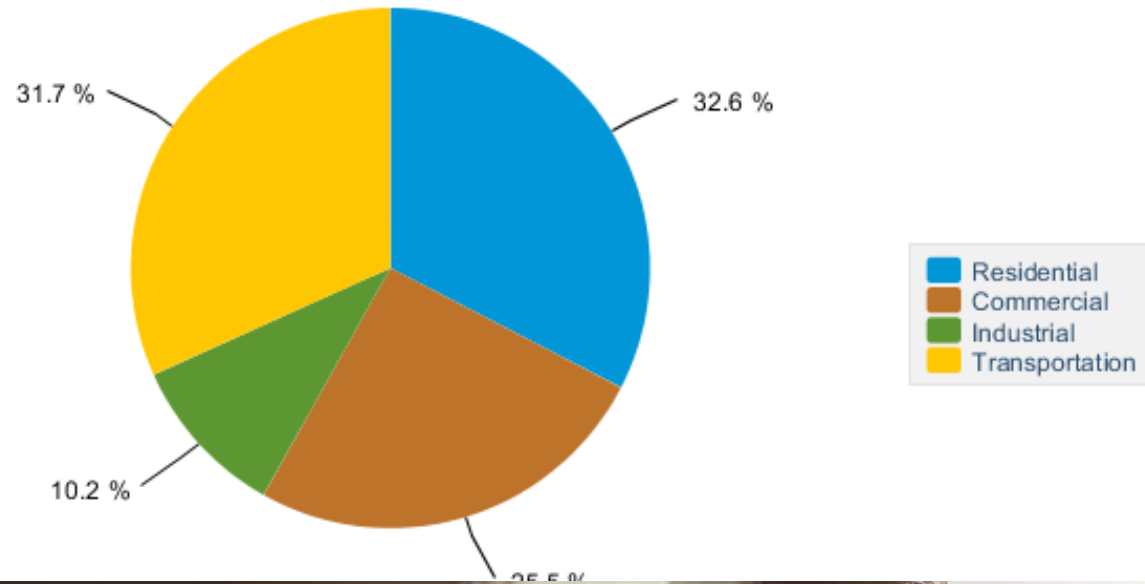


Energy Justice

- Low-income houses have an energy burden that is three times higher than higher-income households
- Low-income households are less likely to be energy efficient
- Energy burden forces people to choose between paying energy bills and buying food or medicine



Connecticut Energy Consumption by End-Use Sector, 2019



Energy Usage – Quick Facts

- A typical home uses 30% more energy than an energy efficient one
- In 2020, CT used 12,963 kWh in electricity – higher than 2019
- Coincided with an increase in days over 90 degrees
- People spend 30% more on electricity in the summer than winter
- The average electricity bill in CT is 19% higher than other states



Air Pollution

- Pollution from power plants, heavy industry, and transportation causes “ground level ozone”
- Ground level ozone is a precursor to smog – it forms when pollution emissions get hot and humid
- Linked to increased asthma, increased infections, lung problems, death in elderly and very young
- More heart attacks and strokes
- The entire state is in “non-attainment” for air quality by federal government





Climate Change in 2022

- \$165 Billion in damage, including 18 storms that were over \$1 Billion each
- 3.4 million people had to leave their homes
- Five 1,000 year rain events
- Drought caused Nevada's Lake Mead to drop to 26% of its capacity



Renew America's Non-profits - Federal Program

Grants up to \$200,000 with an average \$150,000 grant

- Each project should demonstrate
 - Significant energy and cost savings
 - Significant emissions reductions
 - Compelling cost effectiveness
 - Financial need
 - Alignment with Justice 40 Initiative





Justice 40 Initiative

- A federal focus on disadvantaged communities in one of the following areas:
 - Climate change, clean energy, energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and development of clean water and wastewater infrastructure
- Disadvantaged communities can be identified through the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)
 - Many cities in CT – Hartford, Bridgeport, Waterbury, Windham, etc
 - Some portions of cities – part of Manchester, Vernon, etc.



What is covered and who is eligible?

Energy efficiency

Lighting

Insulation

HVAC

Roofing

Fuel-switching

Appliances

Any non-profit 501c3 that owns their own building is eligible

The Application Process



There are three tiers of participation - Prime recipients, Sub-recipients, and Partners

- A prime recipient will be a managing non-profit that will assemble a portfolio of 15- 20 projects, apply for the funding, and receive and disburse the funds
- A sub-recipient will be a non-profit that owns their own building that wants to receive funding
- A partner will be another organization or business, such as a vendor or Energize CT
- Houses of worship would be the sub-recipient



IREJN

Energy Efficiency Program



- Have your house of worship participate in the Small Business Energy Advantage Program
- Hold a home weatherization campaign in your house of worship with the goal of getting 25% of your members to sign up
 - IREJN can supply all participating houses of worship with a toolkit of brochures, flyers, bulletin announcements, and social media posts
- Spread the word by hosting an informational session with 3 religious communities in your area (or denomination)
 - Can be in-person or virtual
- IREJN can supply materials and speakers to help your campaign succeed





IREJN Small Grant Assistance Program

- In 2023, IREJN will be able to award ten \$1,000 small grants to assist houses of worship with energy efficiency measures.
 - Priority given to houses of worship in distressed municipality or environmental justice zones
 - Participants must complete Small Business Energy Audit & and undertake energy efficiency measures
 - Participants must host a residential weatherization campaign in their house of worship
 - Participants must help spread the word by hosting an informational session to 3 houses of worship (in-person or virtual)



Small Business Energy Advantage



- Free energy audit for small businesses – in this case, your house of worship
- Vendor will come to your house of worship and conduct a thorough audit
- Provide you with a menu of energy efficiency measures
- The cost can be paid in one lump sum or it can be spread out over time in your electric bill





Microbusiness Energy Advantage Program



Based on usage of building – perfect for houses of worship that are only used a few times a week



If your house of worship qualifies, Energize CT will fund 80% of your project – up to a \$20,000 total project cost



A \$20,000 project would be immediately rebated for \$16,000; the remaining \$4,000 could be paid directly or added to your monthly bill



Energize CT payments are net positive – the length of the loan is 6 months longer than the amount of time you would need to pay it off.





Home Energy Solutions



- For homeowners and renters
- Program of Energize CT
- Paid for by \$1-2 fee on your electricity or natural gas bill
- Two versions – one with a copay and one for income eligible

How does Home Energy Solutions work?

- Application process - homeowners sign the application, renters need their landlord to sign
- Energy weatherization company will come to your home or apartment and provide several weatherization services
- \$50 co-pay for market rate program, income-eligible program is free
- On average, services are valued at close to \$1,000



What happens during the HES visit?



- Conduct a blower door test and perform an energy audit
- Weatherstripping around window and doors
- Installation of door sweeps
- Swap out incandescent lightbulbs with LED lightbulbs
- Once it is completed, you qualify for great rebates on insulation, HVAC, appliances



Rebates and Incentives

- Up to \$1.70 per square foot on approved insulation projects recommended during your visit
- Up to \$200 for qualifying central air conditioning systems
- Up to \$50 for replacement of certain inefficient appliances with qualifying energy-efficient models
- Up to \$650 for replacement of inefficient gas furnaces with qualifying gas furnaces
- Up to \$750 for replacement of inefficient gas boilers with qualifying gas boilers
- \$100 for replacement of each single pane window with a qualifying ENERGY STAR double pane window
- Significant rebates for Air and Ground Source Heat Pumps



Rebates and Incentives

- **Air Source Heat Pumps:**
 - up to \$15,000 per home for qualifying Air Source Heat Pumps for existing electric, oil, and propane homes
- **Ground Source Heat Pumps:**
 - up to \$7,500 per home for qualifying Ground Source Heat Pumps for existing electric or natural gas heated homes
 - up to \$15,000 per home for qualifying Ground Source Heat Pumps for existing oil or propane heated homes



HOME ENERGY SOLUTIONS INCOME ELIGIBLE PROGRAM

Income eligible program is FREE – no copay

Deeper weatherization services are free

Available for homeowners and renters

Available for single-family, 2-4 unit apartment buildings, and
large apartment buildings





Income Eligible Requirements 2022-2023

Family Size	Maximum Annual Income
1	Under \$39,761
2	Under \$51,996
3	Under \$64,230
4	Under \$76,465
5	Under \$88,699
6	Under \$100,933
7	Under \$103,227
8	Under \$105,521





Renters and Landlords

- HES and HES-IE for 2-4 unit family residences
- Programs are for the utility bill payer whether a homeowner or a renter
- 31% of renters in Connecticut are considered extremely low income (ELI)
- If 50% of renters in 2 or 4 family or 2/3 of renters in 3-family qualify for HES-IE, all tenants can get HES-IE benefits.
- Every renter needs to fill out application with name, address, and utility bill
- No copay!
- Includes assessment, air-sealing, and aerator
- IE program also includes LED lightbulbs – if no one is IE, landlord pays for lightbulbs





Large Apartment Buildings

- 5 or more apartments
- The owner has to fill out an application and the utility has to approve it.
- Residents don't have to do anything – process is between the vendor, owner, and the utility
- Once application is approved, the first visit is within 1-2 weeks
- Work is completed within 1-2 months



Increased opportunities for weatherization with HES-IE

- Installation of weathers stripping and door sweeps
- Interior caulking around all window and doors
- Installation of low flow shower-heads and aerators
- Insulation of attics, sidewall and/or basement ceilings (after approval by Utilities with state incentives)
- Repair (or replacement) of windows (after approval by Utilities with state incentives)
- Cleaning, tuning, testing and repairing of heating systems
- Replacement of incandescent lighting with LEDs
- Installation of Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Blower Door Guided Air- sealing
- Access to other rebates, financing, and incentives





How to sign up for HES or
HES - IE

Sign up at

www.energizect.org

OR

1 - 877- WISE USE





Upcoming Events

Lobby Day for SB 1147 – the Environmental Justice Bill

Wednesday, May 24 – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

All About Heat Pumps (webinar)

Wednesday, June 7 – 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Solar for Houses of Worship (webinar)

Summer 2023

www.irejn.org





Resources

[Climate and Economic Justice Tool](#)

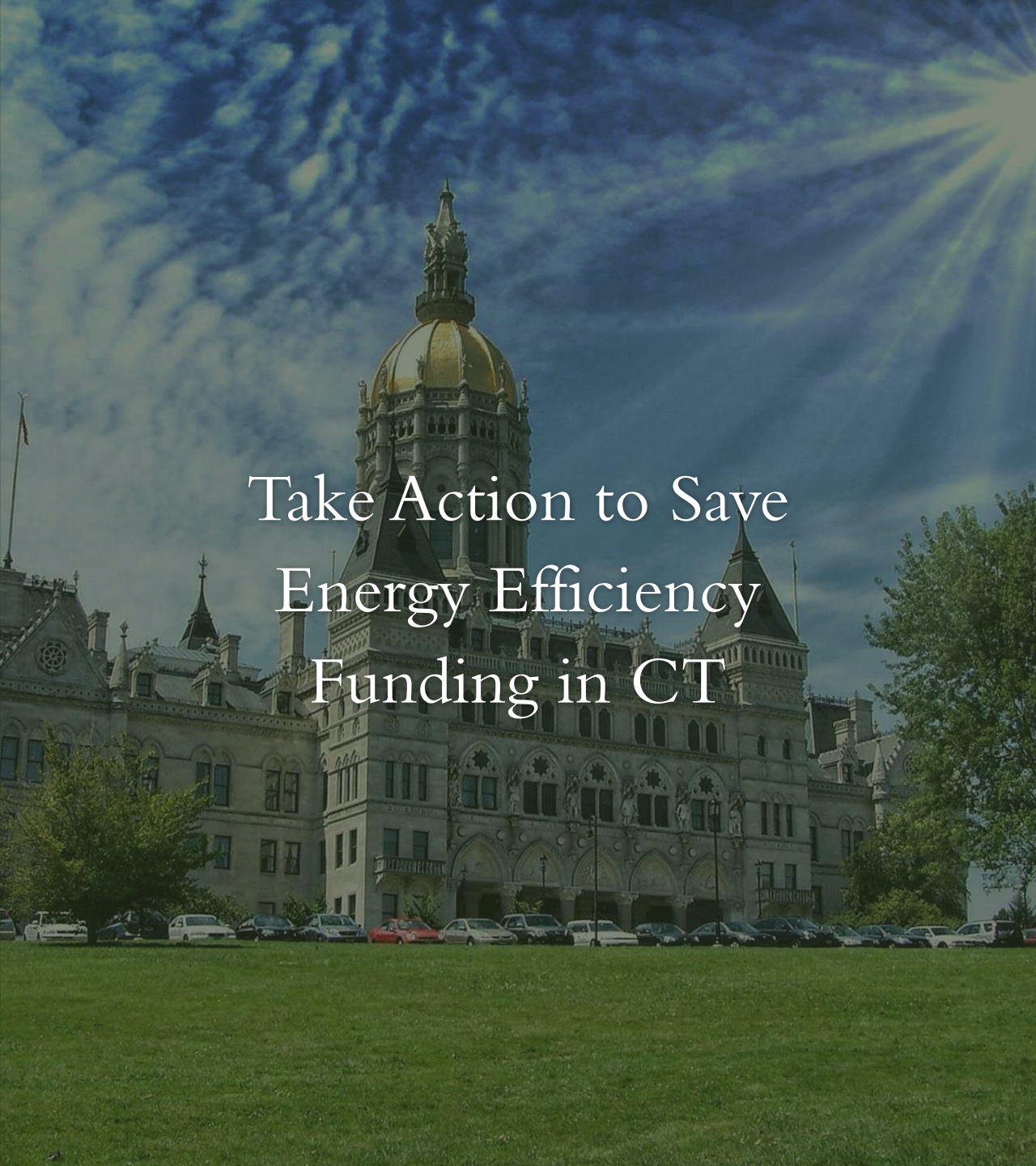
[I Heart My Home](#)

www.energizect.org

www.heatsmartct.org

<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/heat-pump-systems>





Take Action to Save
Energy Efficiency
Funding in CT

HB 5634 was a modest proposal to restore \$20M in funding for the Home Energy Solutions and Home Energy Solutions – Income Eligible

- We need legislators to add it to the budget for the state. Without it:
 - We will lose workforce and jobs
 - We NEED the efficiency work
 - We will not be well positioned to accept IRA funds if we lose workforce

This is a justice issue, too!

Please call your CT representative and senator, plus Speaker Ritter at 860-240-8585 and Senate President Looney at 860-240-8614 TODAY and urge them to prioritize adding this to the budget!

