



RESIDENTIAL NETWORK

Network View Newsletter

News From the Field

Read Peer Exchange Call Lessons Learned

The seventh [Lessons Learned: Peer Exchange Calls](#) “greatest hits” fact sheet summarizes Better Buildings Residential Network member takeaways from winter 2016, proving that seeing is believing when it comes to customers undertaking energy upgrades.



Here are two of those takeaways:

- [Nexus Energy Center](#) of Huntsville, Alabama, created a tiny green home to demonstrate energy-saving equipment in an interactive way and pique potential customers' interest.
- Partnering with a utility and state and national nonprofits, the [City of Knoxville, TN](#), founded the Knoxville Extreme Energy Makeover program, which provided whole-home upgrades at no cost to initial participants, then held workshops with volunteers to engage the community in their own upgrades.

Find more lessons learned by reading the [full document](#).

White House, DOE Announce New Residential PACE Financing Initiatives as Market Grows

The Obama Administration's [Clean Energy Savings for All Initiative](#) is working to provide American households with more tools to complete renewable and home energy efficiency improvements. As part of this effort, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released updated [“Best Practice Guidelines for Residential PACE Financing Programs”](#) for this growing financing tool. The [guidelines](#) can be used by PACE program administrators, contractors, and consumers to plan, develop, and implement programs and home energy upgrades.



July/August 2016

In This Issue

- [Read Peer Exchange Call Lessons Learned](#)
- [White House, DOE Announce New Residential PACE Financing Initiatives](#)
- [Energy Prize Participants Go for the Gold With Green](#)
- [Austin Cool Homes Tour](#)
- [Help Make the Residential Program Solution Center Even Better](#)
- [Residential Network Adds New Members](#)
- [Your Summer Reading List](#)
- [Residential Program Solution Center Spotlight](#)

JOIN THE RESIDENTIAL NETWORK »

Be Recognized

SEND YOUR SUCCESSES TO DOE »

DOE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES »

REGISTER FOR UPCOMING PEER EXCHANGE CALLS »

The Missouri Clean Energy District has partnered with Residential Network member [Renovate America](#) to bring residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing to the state. The [Home Energy Renovation Opportunity](#) (HERO) program allows homeowners to pay for energy upgrades over time through local property taxes, at a fixed interest rate for terms of five to 20 years. The program is currently recruiting contractors to offer the financing.

For more background, look for the forthcoming summary of the July 21 Peer Exchange Call, “The Return of Residential PACE—the Sequel (201)” on the [Residential Network website](#).

Energy Prize Participants Go for the Gold With Green Programs

The weather isn't the only thing that's hot this summer. The \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize program is hitting its stride, and participants and Residential Network members [Takoma Park, MD](#), and green|spaces' program [Empower Chattanooga](#) (TN)

are discovering what it takes to motivate residents to make energy-saving changes to their homes.

In Takoma Park, residents hosted meetings in their homes that resulted in 170 homeowners—5% of single family homes—who upgraded their homes so far. Empower Chattanooga discovered going door-to-door was more effective than online campaigns, while yard signs and text messages worked best to publicize upcoming events and workshops held in popular neighborhood locations.

Read more about what these [programs have learned](#).

Austin Shows off Its Cool Houses

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Austin (TX) Energy Green Building program, one of the first green building rating systems in the United States, Residential Network member Austin Energy and the city launched the [Cool House Tour 2016](#) in June.

The tour showcased some of the most energy-efficient and environmentally friendly homes in the area.



Peer Exchange Calls—Register Below

All are invited to take part in these topical calls that serve as a forum to ask questions and engage peers. Register below:

August 4

Energy Efficiency Olympiad: Best Practices From Around the World (201)

1:00–2:30 PM ET

[Register now](#)

August 11

Gold Medal Approaches for Obtaining and Using Energy Efficiency Data (101)

1:00–2:30 PM ET

[Register now](#)

August 18

Vinicius, Quatchi, and You: Using Power Words and Branding (301)

1:00–2:30 PM ET

[Register now](#)

Find the Latest Peer Exchange Call Summaries

Review new call summaries:

- May 26, 2016
[Spring Forward: Top Strategies for Growing and Scaling Your Program \(301\)](#)
- June 2, 2016
[Strategies for Lowering the Costs of Delivering Energy Efficiency \(101\)](#)
- June 9, 2016
[Using Interactive Media to Instill Behavior Change \(301\)](#)
- June 23, 2016
[Home Improvement Catalyst: Strategies for Ongoing Customer Engagement \(201\)](#)

Residential Program Solution Center Spotlight

[Learn more](#) about the tour.

Help Make the Residential Program Solution Center Even Better

DOE is seeking volunteers to share their thoughts and experiences using the [Better Buildings Residential Program Solution Center](#), a repository for key lessons, resources, and knowledge about the planning, operation, and evaluation of residential energy efficiency programs. DOE is convening a focus group via conference call this August to guide improvements to the Solution Center.



To participate, please email bbrpsolutioncenter@ee.doe.gov by **Friday, July 29**, with your first and last name, email address, phone number, organization, and title/role.

DOE is seeking volunteers who meet the following criteria:

- Serve in a decision-making role for an efficiency program
- Are aware of the Solution Center's content and organization
- Have used the Solution Center to help your program

Meet the Members

Residential Network Adds New Members

The Better Buildings Residential Network is pleased to welcome its newest members:

- [Building Hubww](#) (Chaska, MN)
- [Building Sciences, LLC](#) (Short Hills, NJ)
- [City of Fort Collins](#) (CO)
- [Clean Efficient Energy Company, LLC](#) (Overland Park, KS)
- [CLEAResult](#) (San Bruno, CA)



Learn more from these programs and other members. Join the Residential Network by completing a [membership form](#).



Q: How can an energy efficiency program help homeowners find qualified contractors?

A: Visit the [Better Buildings Residential Program Solution Center](#) to find the answer.

Related Events

[2016 ACEEE Summer Study](#)
August 21–26
Pacific Grove, CA

[National Association of State Energy Officials \(NASEO\) 2016 Annual Meeting](#)
September 11–14
Providence, RI

[Behavior, Energy and Climate \(BECC\) Change Conference](#)
October 20–22
Baltimore, MD

[2016 Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance and Association of Energy Services Professionals Conference](#)
October 25–26
Atlanta, GA

[2016 ACEEE Intelligent Efficiency Conference](#)
December 4–6
Austin, TX

Have an event you want featured? Email the details to [Better Buildings Residential Network Support](#).

Resource Corner

Enhance Your Summer Reading List

- [“Boosting Insulation Can Reduce Energy Use, Pollution”](#) (*Home Energy* magazine blog, July 2016)
- [“Energy-Efficient Homes: Yes, We Want Them. But We Haven’t Done the Work”](#) (Vox, June 2016)
- [“Home Energy Performance Is Key to Avoiding the Next Mortgage Crisis”](#) (Rocky Mountain Institute blog, June 2016)
- [Southeast Multifamily Market Assessment](#) (Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, June 2016)
- [“The Greenest Building Is the One That’s Already Built”](#) (*Home Energy* magazine blog, June 2016)

Share the View

Forward this email to colleagues or encourage them to sign up to receive each issue by selecting “Better Buildings Residential Network” when updating their [DOE email subscription preferences](#).

Do you have something you would like to share with other members through the *Better Buildings Network View*? Send an email to [Better Buildings Residential Network Support](#) to submit your idea.

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Social Media Spotlight



DOE produced a map of the United States that shows energy expenditures per person. Check out [the map](#) to see how your state’s energy use stacks up to others.