

News From the Field

Better Buildings Summit Fosters Collaboration and Innovation

More than 900 energy efficiency visionaries participated in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) [2016 Better Buildings Summit](#) and showcased solutions to increase energy efficiency in buildings nationwide. Many participants received high-level DOE recognition for demonstrating leadership.



Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro made a rare dual appearance at the Summit, which featured the shared importance of climate change and multifamily housing. "Housing can play a vital role in addressing the realities of climate change," HUD Secretary Castro said.

The single-family residential track featured numerous leaders from the Better Buildings Residential Network. In a session that highlighted top lessons learned from DOE's [\\$500 million grant program](#) that achieved more than 100,000 energy efficiency upgrades from 2010 through 2013, Residential Network members [Boulder County](#) (CO), [City of Milwaukee](#) (WI), and [Enhabit](#) (Portland, OR) shared their experiences as program partners and how those experiences have shaped their current efforts.

Presentations from the third annual Better Buildings Summit will be available in the [Better Buildings Residential Program Solution Center](#) soon.

Network Members Share Impacts of Energy Upgrades

Thank you to the Residential Network members that reported annual upgrades and

May 2016

In This Issue

- [Better Buildings Summit Fosters Collaboration and Innovation](#)
- [Network Members Share Impacts of Energy Upgrades](#)
- [Network Member Receives DOE Funding to Upgrade Multifamily Buildings](#)
- [Virginia Residents Check out New Energy Lending Library](#)
- [Arkansas Powers Up Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program](#)
- [Communities Ramp Up Energy Efficiency Efforts to Win \\$5 Million Prize](#)
- [Share Your Snapshots](#)
- [Residential Network Welcomes a Variety of New Members](#)
- [Swing Into Spring With New Blogs and Reports](#)

JOIN THE
RESIDENTIAL
NETWORK »

Be Recognized

SEND YOUR
SUCCESSSES
TO DOE »

DOE FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES »

REGISTER FOR

benefits—the only requirement of membership. The deadline for submitting a [Reporting and Recognition Template](#) has been extended to Thursday, May 26. [Share your accomplishments and be recognized today.](#)



Thanks and congratulations to Residential Network member [City and County of Denver](#) (CO) for reporting 1,466 upgrades in fiscal year 2015, annual energy savings of 441,524 kilowatt hours and 107,854 therms, and \$151,405 annual cost savings.

Network Member Receives DOE Funding to Upgrade Multifamily Buildings

On May 9, DOE announced [\\$14 million in awards](#) to dramatically increase the efficiency of our nation's homes and buildings to scale up replicable, energy-efficient solutions.



One of six funding awards is for a project by Residential Network member [International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology](#) (Lakewood, CO) to demonstrate a financially sustainable mechanism for upgrading small multifamily buildings that can cut energy use by 20% to 30%, reduce utility bills by \$3,100 a year per building, and create 200 jobs.

These efficiency solutions will create "healthier homes and significantly improve our nation's existing building stock, cutting energy bills for American consumers and businesses." said Kathleen Hogan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency.

Virginia Residents Check out New Energy Lending Library

Residential Network member [Arlington County](#) (VA) launched an [Energy Lending Library](#) on Earth Day that engaged residents and identified energy and money-saving opportunities.

AIRE: Energy Lending Library
Tools to help you save money on energy bills, and make your home more comfortable.



UPCOMING PEER EXCHANGE CALLS »

Peer Exchange Calls —Register Directly Below

All are invited to take part in these topical calls that are more discussion than webinar and serve as a forum to ask questions and bounce ideas off peers. Register directly below:

May 26

Spring Forward: Top Strategies for Growing and Scaling Your Program (301)
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

June 2

Five and Dime: Revisiting Strategies for Lowering the Costs of Delivering Energy Efficiency (101)
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

June 9

Swipe Left, Power Down: Using Interactive Media to Instill Behavior Change (301)
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

June 16

Roadmap for Integrating Health and Home Performance
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

June 23

Home Improvement Catalyst: Strategies for Ongoing Customer Engagement (201)
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

Anyone with an Arlington Public Library card can check out thermal cameras, electricity usage monitors, self-help books about residential energy efficiency, and, soon, light-emitting diode (LED) bulb samplers.

“The thermal cameras were all checked out almost immediately and we are looking to add more,” said Rich Dooley, community energy coordinator at the Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy.

The Energy Lending Library is the latest step in achieving the goals of Arlington’s Community Energy Plan, adopted in 2013 to ensure reliable and affordable energy supplies and demonstrate the county’s long-term commitment to environmental responsibility.

[Read more](#) about the Energy Lending Library.

Arkansas Powers Up Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program

Last year, Residential Network member the [Southwestern Electric Power Company](#)



(SWEPCO) expanded its [Arkansas Home Performance with ENERGY STAR \(HPwES\) program](#) to include low-rise multifamily properties and provide a new group of customers with ways to save energy and money on utility bills.

Multifamily properties in Arkansas are now eligible for many of the same improvements offered to single-family homes, including duct sealing, air sealing, ceiling insulation, air conditioner and heat pump replacement, and direct install measures such as lighting and low-flow water devices. SWEPCO has already completed 811 apartment unit upgrades. [Find out more](#) about the lessons SWEPCO learned from its multifamily HPwES program.

Communities Ramp Up Energy Efficiency Efforts to Win \$5 Million Prize

The 50 participating communities in the [Georgetown University Energy Prize \(GUEP\)](#) are nearing the end of the semifinalist performance competition. Check out the [GUEP Competition Dashboard](#) to see how communities in your region are doing and how cities, counties, utilities, and homeowners are working to reduce their energy consumption.



All GUEP communities are members of the Residential Network.

July 7

It's Getting Hot in Here!
Best Practices for Hot and Humid Climates (101)
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

July 14

Innovation Station: The Latest Advances in Energy Efficiency Technology (301)
1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

Find the Latest Peer Exchange Call Summaries

Readers can now review summaries from the following calls:

- April 14, 2016:
[Training: How to Get Results – What Matters, What Doesn't \(201\)](#)
- April 21, 2016:
[Advances in Integrating Energy Efficiency Into the Real Estate Market \(301\)](#)
- April 28, 2016:
[Driving Change in Residential Energy Efficiency: Electric Vehicles \(301\)](#)

Proven Practices Spotlight



Q: How can we monitor progress toward program goals?

A: Measure and evaluate performance at key points in the upgrade process. Visit the [Better Buildings Residential Program Solution Center](#) to learn more about assessing program progress.

The [City of Fargo](#) (ND) is currently in third place and has saved more than \$3 million and over 14 million kilograms of carbon dioxide. The [City of Bellevue](#) (WA) is currently in fifth place and has saved nearly \$5 million and over 4 million kilograms of carbon dioxide.

[Learn more](#) about how the community participants are reducing their energy consumption.

Share Your Snapshots

Share photos of your organization's events and activities by emailing them to [Better Buildings Residential Network Support](#) to be featured in an upcoming DOE publication or newsletter.

Meet the Members

Residential Network Welcomes a Variety of New Members

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

- [Byggmeister, Inc.](#) (Newton, MA)
- [City of Cleveland, Ohio](#)
- [City of Plano, Texas](#)
- [Earth Advantage Institute](#) (Portland, OR)
- [EnergySavvy](#) (Seattle, WA)
- [High Country Conservation Center](#) (Frisco, CO)
- [Insulation Materials, LLC](#) (East Peoria, IL)
- [Insulation Systems](#) (Eastlake, OH)
- [Southern California Edison](#) (Rosemead, CA)
- [Windham & Windsor Housing Trust](#) (Brattleboro, VT)



Learn more from these programs and other members. Sign up to become a Residential Network member by completing a [membership form](#).

Resource Corner

Swing Into Spring With New Blogs and Reports

- [Big Savers: Experiences and Recent History of Program Administrators Achieving High Levels of Electric Savings](#)

Related Events

[2016 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit](#)

June 13–14
Bretton Woods, NH

[American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers 2016 Annual Conference](#)

June 25–29
St. Louis, MO

[2016 ACEEE Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings](#)

August 21–26
Pacific Grove, CA

[Behavior, Energy and Climate \(BECC\) Change Conference](#)

October 20–22
Baltimore, MD

[2016 Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance \(SEEA\) and Association of Energy Services Professionals \(AESP\) Southeast 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](#).

Social Media Spotlight



Keep celebrating Mother's Day by sharing these [top five tips from clean energy moms](#) in your social media and materials.

(American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy [ACEEE], April 2016)

- [Critiques of Energy Efficiency Policies and Programs: Some Truth But Also Substantial Mistakes and Bias](#) (ACEEE, April 2016)
- “[How to Bid on HVAC Contracts](#)” (*Home Energy* magazine blog, April 2016)
- [Lifting the High Energy Burden in America’s Largest Cities: How Energy Efficiency Can Improve Low Income and Underserved Communities](#) (ACEEE, April 2016)
- “[Lucky 13: Sales Tips for Home Energy Contractors](#)” (*Home Energy* magazine blog, April 2016)
- [Quantifying the Financial Benefits of Multifamily Retrofits](#) (DOE’s Building Technologies Office, April 2016)
- [Reaching More Residents: Opportunities for Increasing Participation in Multifamily Energy Efficiency Programs](#) (ACEEE, May 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.

You are receiving this email from DOE’s Better Buildings Residential Network. To change your email settings or unsubscribe, [click here](#).

U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

betterbuildings.energy.gov/bbrn