



DENVER[®]
THE MILE HIGH CITY



The Denver Energy Challenge Serving Moderate Income Residents

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CHALLENGE

The Denver Energy Challenge

- A key goal of the program is to serve all residents in Denver, regardless of income
- Energy advisors work with all residents, but some nonprofit partners work specifically with low-income or Spanish speaking residents in specific neighborhoods
- Partners include Revision International, Center for Resource Conservation, Shaw, Populus LLC, Groundwork Denver
- The range of services available to moderate income is limited

Moderate income services in Denver

- Denver Urban Renewal Authority - low- or zero-interest loans for home repair (to include efficiency), 80% SMI
 - Funding- Denver, HUD CDBG
- Mile High Youth Corps- free quick install of low flow showerheads, aerators and CFLs
- Groundwork Denver- free home energy audits
 - Funding, Denver, EPA, private foundations
- Others, such as Veterans Green Jobs and Energy Outreach Colorado, only serve low-income residents

Expanding service to moderate income residents: Challenges

- Perception by partners that working with moderate income residents might shift resources away from low-income in a time of tight budgets and increased need
- Confidentiality agreements for those working with DOE funding, general concerns about protecting client privacy
- Integration of health and safety with efficiency
- Challenges to partnering with many organizations and groups (competition vs collaboration)

Next steps

- Selected a nonprofit partner, Groundwork Denver, to pilot a group buy for insulation (215 residents), air sealing required, CAZ testing required
- Residents will be recruited by Groundwork
- They work primarily in moderate income neighborhoods in Denver and already have clients who did not qualify for low-income services
- They will do a free audit, energy advising, select a contractor (from a pool we have vetted), assist with rebate paperwork, and float the upfront cost

Possible barriers

- Upfront cost still too high- floating costs before rebates needed?
- Scheduling homeowners and the contractor to maximize customer satisfaction and streamline the process
- Insulation not the top concern for some homeowners- other pressing home repair issues more urgent

Other incentives and assistance

- Low-interest unsecured loan program made possible by DOE
- Provided through Elevations Credit Union
- Minimum: \$500
- Maximum: \$25,000
- Terms: 36, 60, 84, 120 fixed rate with no prepayment penalties
- Up to 100% of the project cost may be financed
- 40+ Residential eligible measures

	FICO		36	60	84	120
A+	740+		2.75%	3.50%	4.50%	6.00%
A	720-739		2.88%	3.63%	4.63%	6.13%
A-	700-719		3.00%	3.75%	4.75%	6.25%
B+	680-699		3.13%	3.88%	4.88%	6.38%
B	660-679		3.50%	4.25%	5.25%	6.75%
B-	640-659		3.88%	4.63%	5.63%	7.13%
C+	620-639		4.38%	5.13%	6.13%	7.63%
C	600-619		4.88%	5.63%	6.63%	8.13%
C-	580-599		5.38%	6.13%	7.13%	8.63%

Contact info

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