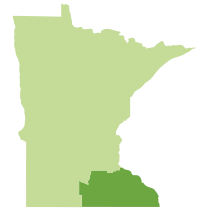


## SOUTHEAST REGION



### **Channel One Regional Food Bank: Food Bank Lighting Retrofit**

Rochester, MN — Channel One Regional Food Bank (C1) partnered with RETAP to evaluate their energy management practices and potential energy efficiency projects. Retrofitting C1's lighting load was recognized as the best place to realize efficiencies and this project will implement the recommendations. By investing in energy efficiency upgrades, C1 will reserve general operating funds for their mission to end hunger in their region and demonstrate the viability of energy efficiency upgrades to other nonprofits, especially their network of 200 partnering food shelves and local food security programs. (\$3,550 Commerce)

### **City of Houston: Community Electric Vehicle Charging Station**

Houston, MN — Expanding the EV charging network is necessary for EV acceptance and widespread EV use. This project will position Houston, a small rural community, and show forward-thinking that helps reduce its carbon footprint. It will encourage visitors already embracing EV technology, to explore greater Minnesota. (\$2,500 Commerce)

### **Growing Up Healthy: Clean Energy Resources in Spanish**

Northfield, MN — This project will engage community members whose primary/preferred language is Spanish, in local clean energy efforts. Spanish-speaking and Latinx community members have been underrepresented in local discussions about clean energy and climate change. To engage these community members in decision making about clean energy technologies and advocate for community-wide adoption of clean energy, information about clean energy, climate change, and local efforts must be readily available in Spanish, as well as English. (\$5,000 Commerce)

### **Healthy Community Initiative/Growing Up Healthy: It Takes a Community to Strengthen Energy Efficiency**

Faribault, MN — This project will use the "Meetings in a Box" concept to conduct neighborhood-led energy efficiency events in two manufactured home communities in Faribault. Partners will provide tools and background information to assist, and they plan to schedule 40 Home Energy Squad visits between the two communities. Ultimately, this project intends to provide a replicable model of empowering residents and neighborhoods toward sustainability. (\$5,000 Morgan)

### **Hillcrest Community Cooperative: Community Building Remodel**

Clarks Grove, MN — This project will focus on replacing the siding, single pane windows, and adding wrap and insulation on their office and the attached apartments. By increasing energy efficiency, they will be able to provide comfortable, safe, and energy efficient living to low-income tenants and residents. (\$5,000 Commerce)

## **Hometown Resource Center: Facilities Efficiency Updates**

St. Charles, MN — Like so many nonprofits, Hometown Resource Center is pinched by rising utility costs, labor costs, inflation on supplies, etc. Controlling their utility costs through an HVAC upgrade is part of their strategy to remain financially viable to continue to serve community members well into the future. The furnace in their building was installed in 1985. There have been issues with its function and its efficiency. A replacement furnace would be fuel efficient, which would be better for the environment, in addition to reducing monthly bills. (\$5,000 Commerce)

## **Northcountry Cooperative Foundation: Improving Energy Efficiency of Manufactured Homes**

Southeast MN — The grant will be used to assess the energy efficiency of manufactured homes in Northcountry Cooperative Foundation's client communities Sunrise Villa Cooperative, Cannon Falls (47 homeowners); Zumbro Ridge Estates, Rochester (109 homeowners); Hillcrest Community Cooperative, Clarks Grove (76 homeowners) in partnership with Slipstream. The assessment data will be used to develop a scalable energy efficiency rehab loan and grant program for manufactured/mobile homeowners. (\$5,000 Commerce)

## **Precipitate and Community Action Center of Northfield: Energy Engagement with the Hillcrest Community**

Northfield, MN — This project will connect with residents of Hillcrest Village, a series of affordable rental units and townhomes developed by the Community Action Center of Northfield (CAC) to support low-income people in need of stable housing. This population has been and remains severely underserved, more highly impacted by climate change, and left out of conversations about climate justice solutions. Precipitate and CAC will collaborate to inform future affordable housing based on the experiences and perspectives of the Hillcrest Village residents. (\$5,000 Commerce)

## **Project FINE: Energy Efficiency Outreach to Refugee and Immigrant Populations**

Winona, MN — This project will increase access to CERTs resources and information for refugees and immigrants residing in Winona County. Activities include translation of CERTs Energy Resource Guides and Right Light Guide for General Use Bulbs into Hmong, and outreach to share these materials in Hmong and Spanish. (\$4,950 Commerce)

## **Project FINE: Understanding Your Energy Bill**

Winona, MN — This project will provide information to refugees and immigrants about energy bills and ways to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. Activities include workshops and individual outreach related to understanding utility bills and possible ways to reduce costs. (\$5,000 Morgan)

## **Regency Park Mobile Homes: Eagle Lake Energy Efficiency Outreach**

Eagle Lake, MN — Create an outreach event at the Eagle Lake Regency mobile home park (approximately 65 units) to educate residents about how to save money, conserve energy and water, and connect them to available programs such as utility rebates and community action agency programs (Head Start, SNAP, weatherization). The event will attract participants with ice cream and free energy saving items. (\$1,600 Commerce)

## **Rethos: Places Reimagined: Old Home Energy Efficiency Classes**

Winona, MN — The primary objective of this project is to advance home energy efficiency in the southeastern region of Minnesota, centered around Winona, by providing a series of short informational videos about home weatherization and energy upgrades. These will be filmed in an older building in Winona by a local videographer. Experts will discuss and demonstrate basic energy efficiency updates that homeowners can tackle themselves. (\$5,000 Commerce)

## **Semcac: Collaboration for Interpreting Services of Energy Programs**

Southeast MN — Semcac Energy Assistance and Weatherization Programs will administer this project in eight southeastern Minnesota counties. The objective is to provide contracted interpreting/translating services to clients and potential clients who speak a language other than English to determine Energy Assistance Program eligibility for the household, educate families about energy efficiency, help households receive assistance paying energy bills, and educate them about energy-conservation services. (\$5,000 Commerce)