

2020 Annual Report

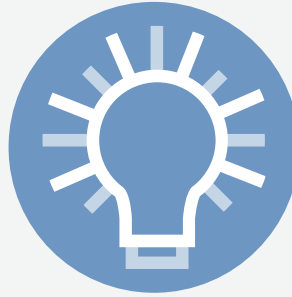
Highlights & Accomplishments



**Hosted 31 events
with over 1,160
attendees**



**Connected with
5,653 people at
341 forums**

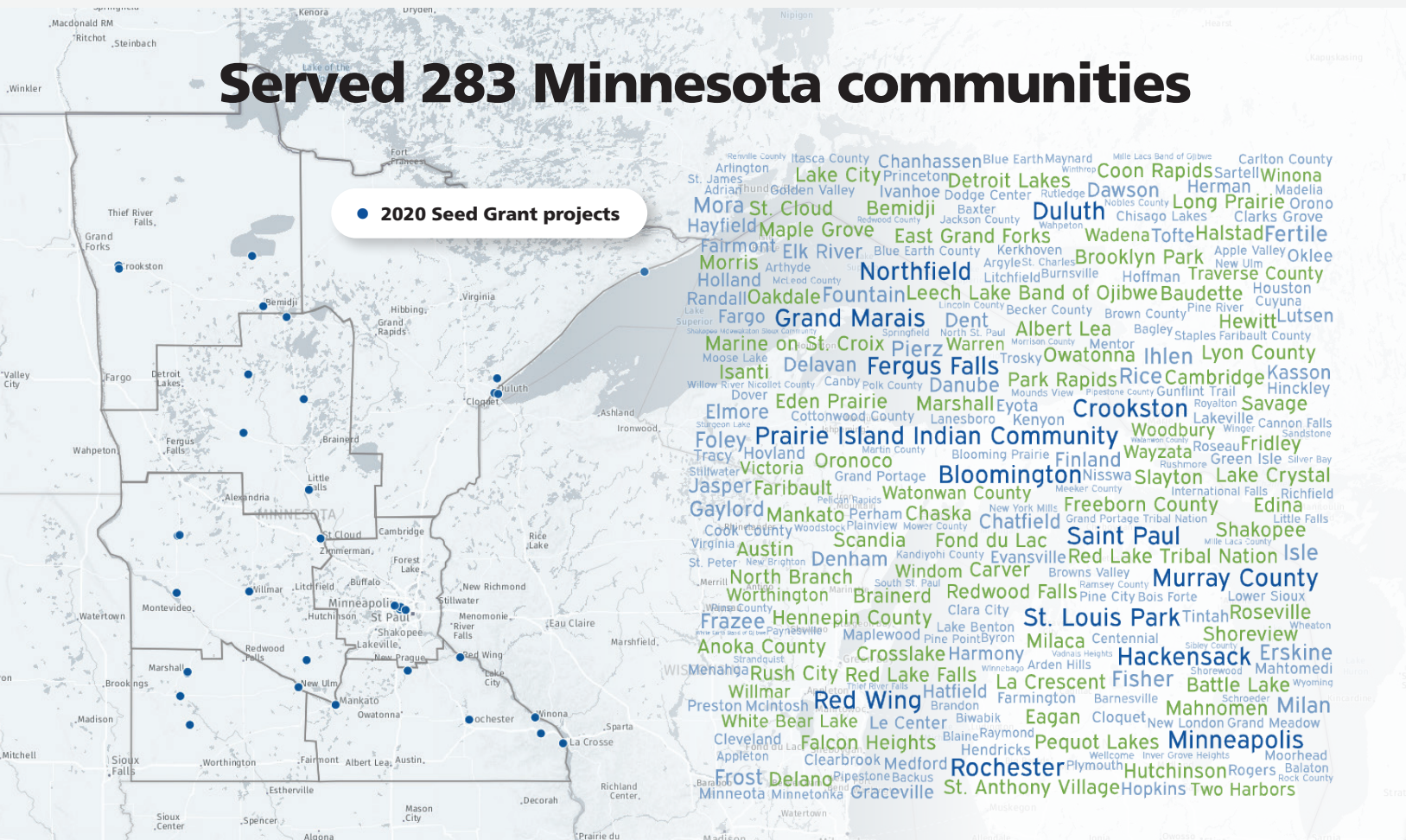


**Offset 63.2 billion
BTUs (same as
1.8M LED bulbs)**



**Funded 35
Seed Grant
projects**

Served 283 Minnesota communities



Highlights by Audience

Governmental Units

- GreenStep program: *Celebrating 10 years with 137 cities & 4 tribal nations*
- Direct solar assistance to jurisdictions: *3 on-site solar projects by Maple Grove & Edina Schools; 2 solar gardens by Saint Paul's Como Zoo & Hennepin County*
- Solar Schools: *Launched new resources & shared stories about Pine River-Backus, Morris, Mounds View*



Utilities

- Beneficial Electrification: *14 municipal utilities (including Austin, Chaska, East Grand Forks, Grand Marais, Roseau) joined our EV peer cohort; 18 utilities attended forums in Mt. Iron & Mahanomen on air source heat pumps*
- Saving Watts & Drops: *Distributed 30,000+ energy saving items with 9 utilities: gas utility MN Energy Resources; co-ops Arrowhead, People's, East Central; munis Fairmont, Grand Marais, Worthington; IOUs MN Power, Otter Tail Power*



Small Businesses

- Business Blitzes: *331 business assessments in Appleton, Browns Valley, Canby, Dawson, Graceville, Hendricks, Herman, Hoffman, Lake Benton, Minnesota, Wheaton*
- PACE: *7 businesses with solar & efficiency projects; Anoka, Freeborn, Watanwon counties sign PACE JPA*



Agriculture

- New Tools: *Energy saving equipment on the farm and on-farm solar*
- Direct Support: *Solar leasing guidance, solar site assessments, financing options*



Underserved Communities

- Food Shelves: *Advanced partnerships with utilities to distribute 28,000 bulbs to households through 24 food shelves*
- Manufactured Homes: *Engaged 514 units across 10 parks in Detroit Lakes, Faribault, Northfield with weatherization kits and education*
- Under 5%: *Advancing partnerships and strategies to reduce the energy burden of all families below 5% by 2025*



Storytelling

CERTs shared 111 energy stories in 2020 and launched a popular podcast featuring energy leaders pivoting to serve communities during the pandemic. Top stories featured energy savings for manufactured homes in Northfield, a wind-powered candy factory in Le Center, and solar at Mounds View Schools, for residents in North Minneapolis, and at a Plainview family farm.



Key Tools

Job Board & Energy Careers

The most popular resource on the CERTs website in 2020 was our job board, which featured hundreds of opportunities across technologies and sectors. A new complementary tool features an overview of in-demand career options and training programs to prepare for them.



Home Energy Guides

A new series of guides was designed to answer common home energy questions for renters, landlords, and manufactured home owners. They include tips for saving energy and money, who to contact for assistance, and how to understand utility bills.



LEARN MORE

CleanEnergyResourceTeams.org/2020