CERTs 2022 Seed Grant Awards



NORTHWEST REGION

Aaron's Grocery: Cooler Replacement

Fertile, MN — Most of this grocery store's refrigeration equipment is old and inefficient with 24 feet of produce coolers that need to be replaced. The labor expense will go toward installation of these new coolers. (\$4,000 Commerce)



City of Halstad: Wimmer Homes Insulation

Halstad, MN — Wimmer Homes, originally built in the 1960s for low-income elderly people to preserve independence in small homes, were designed with electric heat and have received insufficient R value updates through the years. This project will insulate the attics in 14 rental units owned and operated by the city of Halstad. (\$5,000 Commerce)

City of Middle River: Legacy Center Energy Efficiency

Middle River, MN — The City of Middle River purchased the Legacy Center (former Middle River Community School) in 2018 after the school closed in May 2018. The energy costs of maintaining the 45,000 square foot building have strained the city's budget. A number of measures are in the works to reduce energy costs including the installation of a wood-burning furnace through a grant from the U.S. Forest Service, and replacing existing fluorescent lights with more energy-efficient lights. (\$5,000 Commerce)

City of Warren: Clean Energy Independence — Model Plan for Design for Community Regeneration

Warren, MN — The Warren Clean Energy Independence Plan will create actionable recommendations and be a regional model for clean energy independence. This work builds from visioning, planning, and prioritizing completed in the first phase of "Design for Community Regeneration (D4CR) Warren." Running alongside D4CR Phase 2, this project will generate detailed analysis, recommendations, and tools for implementation that address opportunities to reduce energy burden, improve energy security and resilience, offer economic development opportunities, and build on Warren's leadership to be a model for a just and regenerative energy path. (\$5,000 Commerce)

Halstad Municipal Utility: Electric Vehicle Charging Station

Halstad, MN — Halstad Municipal Utility would like to contribute to the electric vehicle grid by supplying a charging station close to their downtown. Whether it is bringing tourists to shop at their new General Store or visiting the "World's Largest Sugar Beet," the City of Halstad hopes to alleviate range anxiety for EV customers. They also plan to promote EV charging at homes with Off Peak incentives. (\$5,000 Commerce)

CERTs Partners











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Headwaters Music and Arts: Creating Light and Warmth with Music and Art

Bemidji, MN — This lighting project seeks to lower the overall energy burden while improving the quality of lighting and environment for students, staff, volunteers, and visitors. This project will produce a more sustainable and creative environment, and strengthen the organization as it aligns with their values of collaboration, innovation, and empowerment. (\$5,000 Commerce)

Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity: ReStore HVAC Update

Moorhead, MN — This project will improve the energy efficiency of the HVAC system within the ReStore/Habitat office building. The 18,000 sq ft building serves nearly 17,000 customers a year, many of whom are low income. Two of the three HVAC systems are suspected to be original to the building, built in 1964. Cost savings from energy efficiency improvements to their systems will allow them to keep ReStore prices low and put more funding into their home building mission. (\$5,000 Commerce)

Marshall County: Electric Vehicle Charger

Warren, MN — This project will provide a public EV charging station easily accessible to residents, employees, and visitors, and expand the community's EV resources. (\$4,000 Commerce)

New Americans Integration Center: Building Energy Efficiency Assessment and Open House

East Grand Forks, MN — The New Americans Integration Center will hire a professional to conduct an infrared assessment of the building. Information from the report will allow prioritization of weatherization projects for the building. Following completion of the weatherization improvements, an open house will take place to share the energy savings achievements with the Somali community and the community in general. An essay project for Somali students will encourage engagement around saving energy at home. (\$5,000 Morgan)

Northcountry Cooperative Foundation: Improving Energy Efficiency of Manufactured Homes

Moorhead, MN — The grant will be used to assess the energy efficiency of manufactured homes in Northcountry Cooperative Foundation's client Bennett Park Cooperative 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 Morgan)

Red Lake Charter School: Solar for Red Lake Charter School (Endazhi-Nitaawiging)

Red Lake, MN — The new Red Lake Charter School will conduct a solar feasibility study and will translate available solar curriculum into the Ojibwe language. (\$5,000 Commerce)



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White Earth Economic Development: Naytahwaush Boxing Gym

White Earth, MN — The Naytahwasuh Boxing Gym is used as a community wellness center and the training facility for the White Earth Nation Boxing Team. This building has been repurposed multiple times, originating as a 1970s sewing factory. The building lacks adequate lighting and proper insulation around entrances and exits. This project will update the lighting from fluorescent to LED, and insulate the exterior doors. (\$5,000 Commerce)

White Earth Land Recovery Project: Solar Feasibility and Building Energy Assessment

Callaway, MN — White Earth Land Recovery Project (WELRP) will determine the feasibility of becoming more energy efficient through solar field development, and solar development for the roof. This project will create a clear plan for WELRP to become more energy efficient in a way that is cost effective. (\$1,500 Commerce)