City of Biwabik: City Hall LED Retrofit
Biwabik, MN – This project will be a lighting retrofit for the City Hall offices. City Hall is the heart of the Biwabik community and many community members and citizens from surrounding communities visit the building and would be able to observe the results of the project. The key goals of the project are to replace older inefficient T-12 fluorescent lighting fixtures in the City Hall building with modern efficient LED lighting fixtures. This project will save electric energy and costs to the city as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions. (Energy Efficiency: Lighting Upgrades; $2,000)

Cook County Local Energy Project: Energy Skills Share
Cook County, MN – Energy Skills Share is a series of events that emphasize sustainability energy practices. This collaboration is between Cook County Local Energy Project (CCLEP) and North House Folk School (NHFS). The project will expand upon NHFS’s Makin’ It Through Winter Series to include energy-related curriculum created by CCLEP. Through film, renewable solar system demonstration, hands-on energy efficiency skills and story-telling, Energy Skills Share will engage the local community and visiting public with fun informative evening sessions. (Energy Efficiency: Behavior change; Building Envelope; Lighting Upgrades; Renewable Energy: Solar thermal hot water; Solar electric; $2,000)

Ecolibrium 3: Giving Comfort at Home
Duluth, MN – Giving Comfort At Home (GC@H) is a volunteer-driven program under the supervision of qualified Ecolibrium3 staff serving income-eligible, elderly, disabled and/or veteran homeowners who have the need for home energy improvements/repairs, but may not qualify for weatherization assistance or low-interest loans. The secondary application of this program will be as a training opportunity for income-advantaged homeowners so they can complete work on their own homes, thereby extending energy efficiency knowledge and application beyond this program. This supervised training will occur as part of volunteer time by these homeowners on a GC@H home. (Energy Efficiency: Low-Cost/No-Cost Upgrades; Behavior Change; Building Envelope; Lighting Upgrades; $5,000)

Friends of the Finland Community: LED Upgrades at the Clair Nelson Center
Finland, MN – This project will replace 10 outdoor metal halide light fixtures with LED fixtures resulting in safer, more energy efficient and cost effective lighting for the Clair Nelson Finland Community Center. Everything we do here has a community aspect. The Center is a high traffic facility used by a diverse array of people from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds. Keeping the Clair Nelson Center running is one of the biggest things the Friends of the Finland Community does and any way to reduce the cost of operating the Center will stretch their limited budget and allow for more focus on offering programs and services. (Energy Efficiency: Lighting Upgrades; $1,500)

Minnesota Discovery Center: Educational Solar PV Project
Chisholm, MN – Minnesota Discovery Center seeks to install a solar photovoltaic array in a highly visible area for educational purposes. A nearby museum display will include interpretive information for visitors to learn about solar energy and relate this on-site installation with its real-world impacts. (Renewable Energy: Solar Electric; $3,000)
Orr Recreation and Resource Center: Orr Center LED Exit, Emergency, and Security Lighting Project
Orr, MN – The ORR Center’s goal is to be self-sustainable, and to promote energy efficiency and current technologies. The installation of four new wood burning boilers is currently under way to provide heat and hot water in the building. Installation of solar panels is planned for the future to provide electrical power. The key goal of the LED lighting project is to provide more efficient and economical lighting. (Energy Efficiency: Lighting Upgrades; $3,000)

Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, Arrowhead Regional Network (MN IPL ARN): Youth Be the Spark in NE MN Faith Communities
Duluth, MN – The project will engage youth from communities of faith in the Duluth area in developing their commitment, knowledge and skills to lead in energy reduction at home and in their faith communities. Youth will participate in a day long outdoor experiential leadership development workshop, hands-on service learning with MN IPL ARN volunteers and Ecolibrium3, and sustained mentorship to support youth in mobilizing their faith communities to take individual and collective action to reduce their carbon footprint through energy efficiency and renewable energy. (Energy Efficiency: Low-Cost/No-Cost Upgrades; Behavior Change; Renewable Energy $3,500)