



# ENERGIZE DELAWARE EMPOWERMENT GRANT

Funded by the Exelon Merger for Delmarva Power Customers



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

# Contents

About the Empowerment Grant - 01

Grants Awarded - 02

Grants Awarded - 03

Grants Awarded & Community Outreach - 04

The Future of the Empowerment Grant - 05

2021 Grant Opportunities - 06

# About the Empowerment Grant

**The Empowerment Grant** is a new and exciting program for the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility (Energize Delaware). We're pleased that the program launched in 2020. Energize Delaware was selected through a statewide bid to facilitate the Empowerment Grant Program and funded by the merger of Delmarva Power with Exelon. With direct guidance from the Delaware Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee and its Low-Income Working Group, the Empowerment Grant program was created to disburse \$4 million over the next three years.

These funds are being provided to support organizations in delivering energy efficiency programs to low-income ratepayers located in Delmarva's Delaware electric and gas service territory. The funds are being used to increase energy efficiency; engage with and inform households on the benefits of efficiency; develop community-based approaches to serve under-served communities in Delaware.

Low-income households, Black, Hispanic, Native American, renters, and older adult households all have disproportionately higher energy burdens than the national median household.

For example, low-income households spend three times more of their income on energy costs compared to the median spending of non-low-income households. In addition, households with high energy burdens are more likely to stay caught in cycles of poverty, and often face compounding causes of inequality and injustice.



The Empowerment Grant Program is under the management of Jim Purcell, Grant Manager and Assistant Grant Manager, Kassandra Rodriguez. The Empowerment Grant Team and the Empowerment Grant Review Committee launched the competitive grant program in January 2020, and to date have awarded \$933,390 in grants.

The Empowerment Grant Team despite the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic has engaged hundreds of groups across Delaware through online workshops and technical assistance to bringing energy efficiency programs and services to Delaware Delmarva customers.



# Grants Awarded



## Large-Scale

**New Castle County Habitat for Humanity**

Program: **Refrigerator Replacement Program**

Amount Awarded: **\$500,000**

Location: **Statewide**

Delaware's three Habitat for Humanity affiliates are working together to ease the energy burden of hard working, low-income Delawareans. Working through their the four ReStores, The Habitat affiliates are offering refrigerator replacements to qualified low-income Delmarva Power customers.

Apply at [HFHNCC.org](http://HFHNCC.org).

*Habitat for Humanity's ReStore Refrigerator Replacement Program will replace a total of 450 inefficient refrigerators with ENERGY STAR models. One happy program participant said, "I am excited! I am very pleased to receive my refrigerator. It is new. It is brand spanking new. All for only \$50! It's a great program. It replaced what I have and I look forward to using it."*

## Community-Scale

**Sussex County Habitat for Humanity**

Program: **Insulated Skirting for Manufactured Homes**

Amount Awarded: **\$100,000**

Location: **Sussex County**

Sussex County Habitat for Humanity's insulated skirting program for manufactured homes will reduce air infiltration and increase energy efficiency.

Apply at [SussexCountyHabitat.org](http://SussexCountyHabitat.org).



# Grants Awarded



## Community-Scale

### Wilmington Senior Center

Program: **Lafayette Court Energy Efficiency & Savings Systems**

Amount Awarded: **\$150,000**

Location: **New Castle County**

Wilmington Senior Center will install energy efficiency and saving systems to two identical buildings to reduce operating and utility costs, as well as residential utility bills. WSC will replace space heating boiler and controls, attic air sealing and insulation, compartment air sealing, ERV's with insulated ductwork in attics, low flow toilets, heat pumps, and lighting.

*The Windows of Hope Interior Storm Windows (ISW) has been fully operational at West Center City Wilmington's Temple United Learning Center. John Sykes, the program manager, added "This innovative project is a direct benefit of the Energize Delaware Empowerment Grant, funded by the Exelon Merger. Reducing heating costs for our struggling neighbors while providing local green jobs is what Windows of Hope is all about."*

## Community-Scale

### Delaware Interfaith Power and Light

Program: **Windows of Hope**

Amount Awarded: **\$80,650**

Location: **New Castle County**

DE Interfaith Power and Light will help weatherize older rental properties by fabricating and installing custom Interior Storm Windows. Labor will be provided from within the community. This program will start with the West Center City neighborhood.



# Grants Awarded

## Community-Scale

**New Ecology, Inc., Cinnaire Corp., and Central Baptist Development Corp.**  
 Program: **Efficiency Eastside Initiative**  
 Amount Awarded: **\$68,000**  
 Location: **New Castle County**

These partners will transform 4 homes (3 rehabs and 1 new construction) from what would otherwise be conventional construction into extremely energy efficient, high-performance homes for low- & moderate-income homeowners.

## Community-Scale

**Kingswood Community Center and Energy Coordinating Agency**  
 Program: **DIY Home Weatherization Workshops**  
 Amount Awarded: **\$34,740**  
 Location: **New Castle County**

These weatherization workshops will provide low-income families the tools and knowledge needed to make minor weatherization repairs to homes in the Riverside neighborhood in Wilmington.

# Community Outreach



Insulated Skirting Program for Manufactured Homes with Sussex County Habitat for Humanity. Delmar, DE.



In-person and virtual workshops were held to connect hundreds of groups across Delaware. Large-scale workshops were held in each county in February 2020. Community-scale workshops were held virtually in April 2020.



Number of Grants Awarded in 2020 -----	6 (1 Large-Scale & 5 Community-Scale)
Total Grant Awarded in 2020 (\$) -----	\$933,390.00
Number of Organization Participation in 2020 ---	20 Applications (13 Large-Scale & 11 Community-Scale)
Potential Annual Energy Saving (\$) (Large-Scale) -----	\$127.00 per HH
Potential Annual Energy Saving (KwH) (Large-Scale) -----	432,875
FY21 Operational Budget -----	\$264,000.00
FY21 Program Disbursement -----	\$1,200,000.00

# The Future of the Empowerment Grant

As the Empowerment Grant Program moves forward we're working with public and private sector partners to continue this grant program past its initial funding. Our goal is reduce the energy burden and make energy a tool for impact in all Delaware communities.

## WE ARE EMPOWERING ENERGY EQUITY

Energize Delaware is establishing the **Energy Equity Fund** with the **Delaware Community Foundation** with a goal to reduce energy burden in underserved communities in Delaware and to make clean, efficient and affordable energy a tool for impact in all Delaware communities. We pledge to raise funding to promote the importance of energy efficiency, create access to clean renewable energy, improve the quality and health of homes, educate and advocate for climate resiliency and support the development of clean energy jobs throughout Delaware.

## CLEAN, EFFICIENT, AFFORDABLE ENERGY AS TOOL FOR IMPACT

### Economic Development

Projects that move the needle on carbon reduction, support clean and renewable energy and foster climate resiliency.

### Creating Jobs

Statewide job creation in clean energy jobs. Education, certification, & incentives for clean energy jobs, especially among underserved communities.

### Alleviating Poverty

Reducing the energy burden on Delawareans means homes that are safe, warm, healthy, & affordable for the long term. Focus on LMI populations.

### Improving Public Health

In the public buildings, schools, homes, & businesses, clean & efficient energy is a vehicle for improving the health on our communities

Through aligned strategies and investments, we can offer energy-efficiency programs and build energy sustainability for many more Delawareans: An initial investment of \$1 million has been set aside by Energize Delaware's oversight board. The Energy Equity Fund will be seeking investments, partnerships, and creating awareness to support future grant opportunities for all Delaware communities.

# Grant Application Opportunities in 2021

Energize Delaware is the grant manager for nearly \$4 million in funds designated for low-income energy efficient programs for Delmarva Power customers. The funds originated from the Exelon/Delmarva Power merger settlement. To date the Empowerment Grant has awarded \$933,390 to seven organizations in all parts of the state of Delaware.

## CURRENT GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### Large-Scale Grant

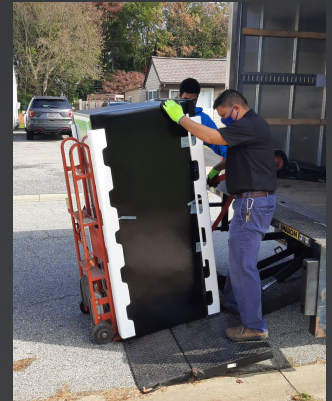
Designed for: statewide, county, or regional programs

Non-Profits & For-Profits can receive up to \$1 million

### Community-Scale Grant

Designed for: small municipalities, neighborhoods, or local governments

Non-Profits & For-Profits can receive up to \$100,000



### Contact Information

Jim Purcell, Grant Manager  
Jim.Purcell@EmpowerGrantDE.org  
Office: 302-724-7033  
Cell: 302-229-1585

Kassandra Rodriguez, Assistant Grant Manager  
Kassandra.Rodriguez@EmpowerGrantDE.org  
Office: 302-724-7033  
Cell: 512-922-4797

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