

New Hampshire's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund
Promoting a Green Economy & Energy Independence for New Hampshire

A CASE STUDY

Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI)

PAREI received GHGERF funds for the expansion of its Solar Energy Raiser program and the development of a similar program that focuses on home weatherization. Using the barn-raising concept, PAREI coordinated 12 Solar Energy Raisers across the state saving 251 million BTUs annually. This same grant also funded a training opportunity for new employees and contractors resulting in 7 certified building analysts, 33 subsidized energy audits for the public and 10 Housewarmings where over \$45,000 in weatherization measures were implemented by homeowners, volunteers and NH Electric Coop's Home Performance with Energy Star program.



- Assisted Habitat for Humanity Builders and volunteers with construction design consultation and air sealing and insulating projects at two Habitat for Humanity sites in the Plymouth area.

- Worked with a Habitat for Humanity Family and volunteers to conduct a Solar Water Heating Energy Raiser.

This \$99,250 grant made the following possible:

- **Installation of solar collectors at 12 different sites across NH producing energy equivalent to heating three homes, saving \$55,000 a year at 2010 oil prices.** This effort leveraged over \$72,000 in solar equipment, and plumbing equipment costs that were covered by the homeowner or facility.
- Worked with local Energy Committees in Portsmouth, Canterbury and Conway seeking training to start Energy Raiser teams **resulting in five Community Volunteer Energy Raisers.**
- **Installed six evacuated tube solar thermal collectors** at two AMC locations to pre-heat their domestic water (**replacing over 750 gallons of oil a year**) and to provide on-going public education and to help the AMC meet their carbon footprint reduction goals.
- **Weatherized homes through 10 volunteer Housewarming events** in 2010 in homes ranging from Wentworth to Ashland to Meredith, NH.
- **Completed solar installations using the Solar Energy Raiser process at one school, one university, one public park and two homes.**
- Conducted 12 public solar information sessions around the state increasing the public's familiarity with the benefits of solar energy.
- Promoted the PAREI model and the benefits of solar energy at school events, energy fairs and conferences.
- **Hired one part-time Energy Solutions Manager and three as-needed Energy Auditors.**
- Conducted **six hands-on trainings** (42 people attended) that educated homeowners and contractors on weatherization measures.
- Conducted two Button Up presentations for the general public (24 attended).
- Offered the Plymouth area community **33 subsidized energy audits** resulting in the implementation of countless professional and do-it-yourself weatherization measures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative <http://www.plymouthenergy.org/>
GHGERF and New Hampshire's Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
www.puc.nh.gov/Sustainable%20Energy/GHGERF.htm