

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

United Illuminating Community Partnership Initiative Grant Program

New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability

February 13, 2023

Funding request: \$50,000.00 for one year

The New Haven Office of Climate and Sustainability and Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) will partner with community-based organizations, social service providers, civic leaders, and City departments to increase enrollment in Connecticut's Home Energy Solutions energy efficiency improvement program. Home Energy Solutions begins with an energy audit, air sealing, and weatherization, after which participants may be eligible for subsidized deep efficiency improvements such as insulation and window upgrades. Once efficiency improvements have been implemented, residents are well-positioned to benefit from the installation of high-efficiency electric heat pumps, which can both heat the home in the winter and cool the home in the summer.

This campaign will aim to increase participation in energy audits, the adoption of deep energy saving measures, and the installation heat pumps among income-eligible residents, renters, and residents with limited English proficiency. Special focus will be placed on DEEP-designated environmental justice census tracts in West Rock/West Hills, Newhallville, Dixwell, the Hill, Fair Haven, and the Annex neighborhoods. The campaign plans to reach residents through participation in neighborhood events and meetings, public advertising and announcements, door-to-door canvassing, outreach to faith-based organizations, and referrals from activities of City departments such as the Fair Rent Commission and Health Department programs related to housing. Residential energy efficiency referrals will be made to NHS' I Heart My Home energy concierge program, which guides residents through maximizing their benefits in the Home Energy Solutions program.