


# neuac

NATIONAL ENERGY & UTILITY AFFORDABILITY COALITION

# 2025

# ANNUAL REPORT



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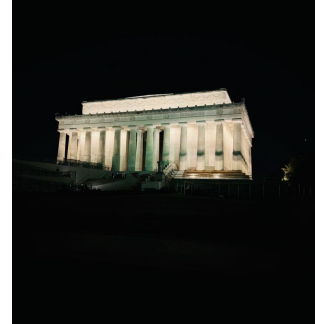
# LIHEAP Action Day

March 4-5, 2025 | Washington, D.C.



## 1,407

Signatures on the  
All Parties Letter



## 264

Meetings with  
federal legislators



## 260+

Action Day  
attendees

In January 2025, the nation welcomed a new President; an administration that carried over priorities from its previous tenure into a new term, which unfortunately included the elimination of the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

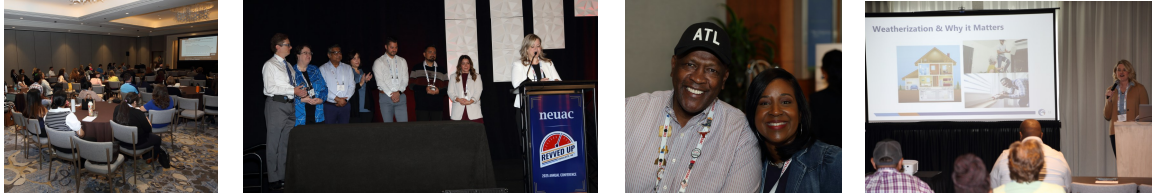
Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) cuts affected the entire staff of the Division of Energy Assistance at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families, Office of Community Assistance. LIHEAP was again proposed for zero funding in the President's budget.

Advocates took advantage of LIHEAP Action Day to pre-emptively address threats to the program, shore up support for the program, and tell local impact stories. It worked. LIHEAP endured many ups and downs over the course of 2025, but LIHEAP endured despite the longest government shutdown in history lasting 43 days, and coinciding with an unprecedented delay in funding.

LIHEAP Action Day brought together advocates for energy affordability from 41 states and the District of Columbia to rally support, share appreciation for legislators who protected LIHEAP, and build relationships with their partners in-state, across the country and on the Hill for the continued advancement of LIHEAP.

# Annual Conference

June 2-5, 2025 | Charlotte, NC



# 642

Total attendees

# 48

Sponsors

## Highlights

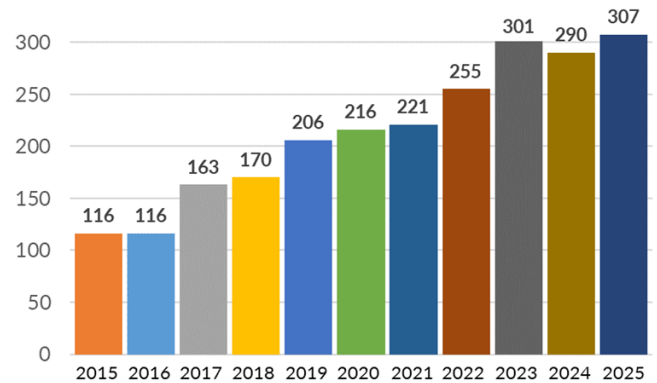
- Fireside Chat with Author and Professor Dr. Diana Hernandez to introduce her new book, "Powerless: The People's Struggle for Energy"
- Pause with Paws—break with therapy dogs and puppies
- Virtual Dialogue with the Feds with leadership at the Office of Community Assistance following the elimination of the Division of Energy Assistance
- Energy BINGO was a hit with practitioners and administrators alike
- Poverty Simulation continued to impact our attendees and teach them about the trappings of poverty
- Huddles: Dialogue-focused sessions encouraging intimate discussions

# Membership 2025

Another record shattered in 2025!

**307**  
members

## Members by Year



## Welcome new NEUAC members!

Action Inc.  
 Bonnie Temme  
 Catholic Charities-Dioc. of Wilmington  
 Combined Community Action, Inc.  
 Community Action of NE  
 Delta Utilities  
 East TN Human Resource Agency  
 Energy CENTS Coalition  
 Exceleron  
 Goodwill of Colorado  
 IA Community Action Association  
 Liberty Utilities  
 Memphis Light Gas & Water

Mid-Willamette Valley CAA  
 NJ Board of Public Utilities  
 Northeast FL CAA  
 Northeast IA Community Action Corp.  
 Palmetto Community Action Partnership  
 Panhandle Community Services  
 Partnership for Community Action  
 Shoshone Bannock Tribes  
 Single Stop  
 Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa  
 Western IL Regional Council  
 WY Department of Family Services

# Sponsorship 2025

Record sponsorship two consecutive years

**50**

Sponsors

**91%**

Retention Rate

**\$546,078**

Total Fundraising

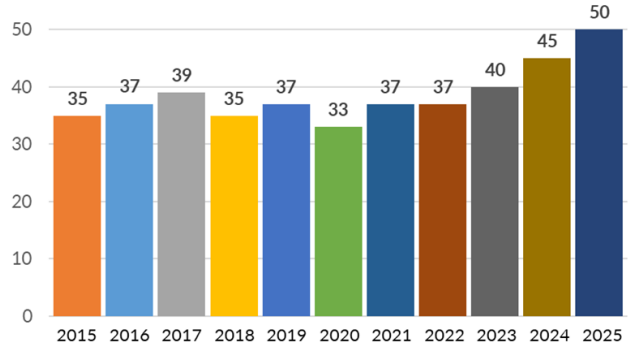
**\$10,922**

Average Donation

**\$6,389**

Average Donation of  
9 New Sponsors

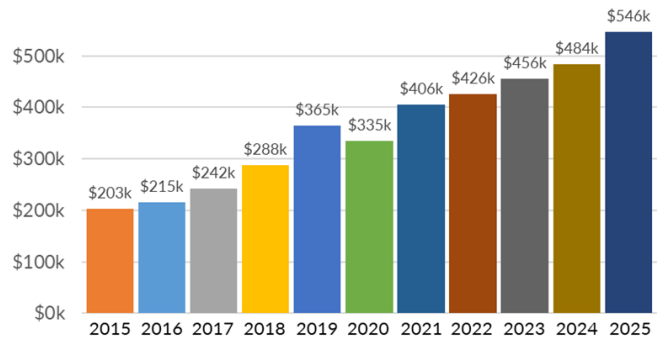
## Sponsors by Year



## New 2025 Sponsors

- American Electric Power (AEP)
- Berkshire Hathaway Energy
- CEDA
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- National Rural Electric Coop Association
- PSE&G
- Southern Company Gas
- Two individuals

## Funds Raised (by campaign year)



## Comparison 2023-2025 Donation/Membership Metrics

	2023	2024	2025	Change over two years
Number of Donors	40	45	50	+10
Total Donations	\$456,000	\$483,500	<b>\$546,078</b>	+20%
Average Donation	\$11,400	\$10,744	<b>\$10,922</b>	-\$478
Median Sponsorship	\$10,000	\$10,000	<b>\$10,000</b>	(no change)
Low	\$1,000	\$3,000	<b>\$1,500</b>	+\$500
High	\$35,000	\$45,000	<b>\$45,000</b>	+\$10,000
Number of Members	301	290	307	+6

# 2025 Special Achievement Awards



## Extra Mile Award

### Congressman Andrew Garbarino (NY-02)

The **Extra Mile Award** is presented annually to a member of Congress to recognize legislative achievements that advance energy assistance policies for vulnerable families. As part of LIHEAP Action Day, NEUAC awards the Extra Mile Award to one member of Congress who has “walked the extra mile” for LIHEAP. In 2025, NEUAC honored Congressman Andrew Garbarino of New York’s second House district for his championing of energy affordability and commitment to protecting LIHEAP.



## Sister Pat Kelley Achievement Award

### Charlie Harak, National Consumer Law Center

The **Sister Pat Kelley Achievement Award** recognizes a person with exemplary achievement in furthering NEUAC’s objectives of increasing public awareness of access issues related to heating and cooling, advancing energy assistance policy, and promoting charitable energy assistance. For more than 40 years, Charlie Harak fought for the rights of vulnerable energy and utility consumers. As an attorney at the National Consumer Law Center, Charlie advocated for affordable energy, utility protections for vulnerable individuals, and strong energy efficiency programs. Those lucky enough to work with Charlie know him as a incredibly kind, generous, and brilliant colleague. His work kept thousands of families safe in their homes by supporting their ability to stay connected to vital utility service.



## Edward G. Gingold Award

### Staff of the Division of Energy Assistance

### U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

This year’s **Edward G. Gingold Award** honors the dedicated staff of the Division of Energy Assistance, whose commitment to public service and the administration of LIHEAP has been unwavering. Despite recent terminations beyond their control, these individuals worked tirelessly to protect and deliver energy assistance to vulnerable households nationwide. Their integrity, professionalism, and deep care for the communities they served leave a legacy we are proud to recognize.



## Corporate Excellence Award

The **Corporate Excellence Award** recognizes outstanding achievements by a company or corporate entity on behalf of its economically challenged customers. PSE&G was recognized for its innovative and comprehensive approach to supporting vulnerable customers. Through creative program design and meaningful partnerships, PSE&G provided wraparound services that go beyond bill assistance—demonstrating a deep commitment to equity, energy affordability, and community well-being. Their approach offers a strong model for other utilities working to advance energy equity and affordability.

# Other accomplishments and activities at NEUAC

## Utility Summit 2025

NEUAC was granted funding by the American Gas Association to coordinate a summit hosting national utility members to learn more about utility-specific issues related to limited-income customers and explore ways that NEUAC can be of service to this constituency. The utility summit also provided a forum for discussion of national trends and solutions related to energy assistance programming, as well as networking opportunities for utility employees involved with limited-income populations and/or legislative affairs.

The NEUAC utility summit was held on December 2-3, 2025. Approximately 60 individuals attended the event in-person and nearly 100 joined remotely via Zoom, making it the largest Summit on record for NEUAC. Topics include Artificial Intelligence and Energy Affordability, LIHEAP Policy Outlook, utility programs expansion, weatherization, and more.

## National Engagements

- National Association for State Community Service Programs (NASCS) Legislative Conference, Federal Partner Updates: Arlington, VA
- EPA's Water Affordability Needs Assessment: Key Insights and Recommendations
- APGA Legislative Reception
- New England Council Meeting – LIHEAP and Energy
- NARUC Natural Gas Taskforce Meetings
- NARUC CPI Committee/Subcommittee Joint Meeting: LIHEAP Update
- Energy 2040: Commission (Alliance to Save Energy)
- EMACS Chartwell Directors' Strategic Council – LIHEAP Policy Outlook
- LIHEAP Federal Update - NEUAC/WeAct
- IUCx Lunch Plenary with Leadership, Moderation of LMI Deep Dive
- NCAP Tribal Engagement on Weatherization Moderator/Speaker – Session at Annual Conference
- NCAP Plenary Session at Annual Conference – LIHEAP Updates
- BlastPoint NEUAC LIHEAP Roundtable
- Sierra Club Lobby Day for LIHEAP
- Advanced Energy United Executive Forum
- Wipfli Annual Conference
- ESource Executive Workshop – Equity in the Clean Energy Economy LIHEAP Update
- Bidgely Empower Energy and Artificial Intelligence Conference
- National Association for State Community Service Programs (NASCS) Training Conference, Federal Partner Updates: Chicago, IL
- EMACS Chartwell Executive Session, Dallas, TX
- ESource LIEIF Forum

## State Engagements

- Active Efficiency Collaborative Meeting Series
- Strategic Communications Cohort
- Georgia Power GCAA LIHEAP Federal Policy Update
- EmPower NEUAC on PIPPs
- South Carolina-Duke Low Income Working Group
- South Carolina Community Action Council Statewide Conference – Plenary + Breakout
- Florida Association for Community Action Agencies Policy Luncheon
- Maryland Office of Lori Charkoudian LIHEAP Event Strategy
- AEP Ohio LIHEAP Appropriations Update
- Michigan PUC Update on LIHEAP Appropriations
- Connecticut Office of the Consumers Counsel Legislative Update for LIEWAB
- CalCAPA Annual Conference – Plenary Session, LIHEAP Updates
- CMUG Update – NY State Utilities, LIHEAP Updates
- CT Research on Energy Insecurity – Boston University Medical Center, Children's Healthwatch
- Ohio Department of Job and Family Services – LIHEAP Transition Team, Columbus, OH

## Local Engagements

- THAW Detroit Tour of Facility
- Austin Energy Summit

## Media Engagements

- KXTV Sacramento, CA
- NPR Atlanta, GA
- NPR Marketplace
- NOTUS
- Planet Detroit
- EE News
- Bloomberg Government

# 2025 Board of Directors



**President**  
Mike Bradford  
Salvation Army



**1st Vice President**  
Britton Gabel  
Omaha Public  
Power District



**2nd Vice President**  
John Rich  
Mid America  
Assistance Coalition



**Treasurer**  
Marietta Doney  
Oregon Energy Fund



**Secretary**  
Laura Bayona  
Florida Power & Light

## Governance Board

Arizona Public Service Company (APS): Michelle Lehman  
Atmos Energy: Diana Marin  
Bridges Community Action Partnership: Andrew Binegar  
CEDA | The Community & Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc.: Latoya Butler  
Citizens for Citizens: Liz Berube  
Colorado Department of Human Services, LIHEAP: Maria Hopps  
Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties: Mar Cuéllar  
Con Edison: Jennifer Rodriguez  
Consumers Energy: Gabe Terry  
CPS Energy: Jesse Hernandez  
DTE Energy: Jason Sparks  
Duke Energy: Kevin Alexander  
Embarras River Basin Agency: Mindy Browning  
Energy Outreach Colorado: Andrew Bennett  
Entergy: Sandra Diggs-Miller  
Florida Power & Light: Laura Bayona  
JEA: Raven Simmons  
Liberty Utilities: Sandi Hennequin  
Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina: Tony Hunt  
Miami Valley Community Action Partnership: Erin Jeffries  
Mid America Assistance Coalition: John Rich  
Morris County for Hispanic Affairs: Marcela Lenox  
National Consumer Law Center: Olivia Wein  
National Energy Foundation: Gary Swan  
Omaha Public Power District: Britton Gabel  
Oregon Energy Fund: Marietta Doney  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company: Greg Rubio  
Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G): Rosa Pagnillo-Lopez  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District: Star Walker  
The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW): Katrina McCree  
The Salvation Army – National Headquarters: Mike Bradford  
Total Community Action: Glenis Scott  
VEIC: Kevin McGrath  
Washington Gas: Alexandra Balbuena Alleyne  
Washington State Community Action Partnership: Shaylee Stokes

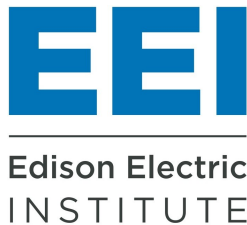
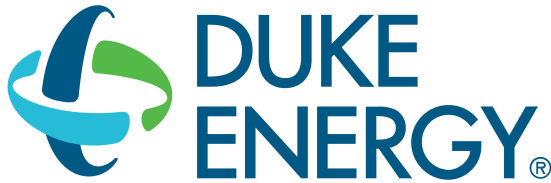
## Ex-Officio Board

American Gas Association (AGA): Kate Brownlee  
American Public Gas Association (APGA): Erin Kurilla  
American Public Power Association (APPA): Sam Owen  
Edison Electric Institute (EII): Ben Jackson  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission: open  
National Energy & Fuels Institute (NEFI): Liam Dotson  
National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association: Will Mitchell

## Advisory Board

Affordable Housing Alliance: Kathy Kerr  
Alliance to Save Energy: Sapna Gheewala Dowla  
American Association of Blacks in Energy: Jay Knott  
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy: Roxana Ayala  
APPRISE: David Carroll  
Baltimore Gas and Electric: Cristiano Quijano  
Berkshire Hathaway Energy: Paridhi Kapadia  
Black Hills Energy: Pauli Springer  
CenterPoint Energy: Suzanne Pierazek  
Chesapeake Utilities – CHEERP: Larry Snook  
Citizens Energy Group: Shannon Stahley  
Community Action of Skagit County: Misty Velasquez  
CSRA EOA, Inc.: Patricia Johnson  
DC Department of Energy & Environment: William Whitfield  
Delaware Office of Community Services: Håly Laasme  
Dollar Energy Fund: Chad Quinn  
Dominion: Carolyn Perry  
Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority Inc.: Tommi Lindsey  
Elevate: Briana Parker  
Evergy: Maria Lopez  
Generation Power CT: Mike Turaj  
Michigan Public Service Commission: Anne Armstrong  
National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASASP): open  
National Community Action Partnership (NCAP): Mia Harnos  
National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA): Brian Sarensen  
National Grid: Rasheeda Davis  
New Jersey Natural Gas: Maria Delaplain  
Opportunity Council: Debbie Paton  
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment: Stacy Wong  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission: Kathryn Zerfuss  
Pepco Holdings Inc. – Exelon: Dorann Brown  
Pierce County Human Services: Carol Mensah  
Salt River Project: Jackie Castrellon  
SEEL, LLC: Scott Alan Davis  
Southern Company Gas: Tiffany Gilstrap  
Step Forward: Doug Bennett  
Tacoma Public Utilities: Tasha Moore  
TECO Energy: Gerri Drummond  
Tennessee Valley Authority: Elizabeth Moore  
Texas Association of Community Action Agencies: Amanda Shelton  
The Salvation Army – Central Territory: Angie Sterner  
Vistra Corp: Kim Campbell Hailey  
Wabash Area Development, Inc.: Micki Halligan  
Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency: Shama Mounzer  
WSSC Water: Kelly Caplan  
Xcel Energy: Diedra Howard

# Thank You, Sponsors!



Alliant Energy Corporation  
 Ameren Corporation  
 American Electric Power (AEP)  
 American Public Gas Association  
 APPRISE  
 Arizona Public Service  
 Atmos Energy  
 Berkshire Hathaway Energy  
 BGE  
 CEDA  
 CenterPoint Energy  
 Con Edison  
 Consumers Energy  
 CPS Energy  
 Dominion Energy  
 DTE Energy  
 Electric Power Board of Chattanooga (EPB)  
 Entergy Services, Inc.  
 FirstEnergy  
 Florida Power & Light  
 Huntsville Utilities

JEA  
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 New Jersey Natural Gas  
 Omaha Public Power District  
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 Salt River Project (SRP)  
 SMUD  
 Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas)  
 Southern Company Gas  
 Spire  
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