# **MATIONAL ENERGY & UTILITY AFFORDABILITY COALITION**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**



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#### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"The opposite of poverty is not wealth. In too many places, the opposite of poverty is justice."

#### -Bryan Stevenson



This year, 2021, was a year when energy insecurity and the seeking of justice received widespread attention not just in our energy affordability network, but with the current administration and population at large. A groundbreaking paper, <u>"Advancing Equity in Energy Regulation,"</u> (Farley, Howat, Bosco, Thakar, Wise, and Su) described with great clarity the steps needed to advance energy equity for all.

Nature Energy magazine also published a study titled "Sociodemographic Disparities in Energy Insecurity Among Low-Income Households Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic" (Memmott, Carley, Graff,

and Konisky) that demonstrated that one in four struggling families reported that they could not afford their utility bill at least once in the past year. That is the equivalent of 4.8 million households that were unable to pay at least one energy bill during the past year, and a similar number received a notice from their utility that they faced disconnection from energy service. Of those that received a notice, more than two in five families had their energy shut off. These numbers equate to tens of millions of Americans, many particularly vulnerable because of age or disability.

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#### -Nature Energy Magazine

Throughout these difficult times, the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC) and its dedicated members worked tirelessly to advocate for the highest total funding appropriations for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in the 40 year history of the program, reach those most in need of energy assistance, provide energy crisis intervention to millions of U.S. families struggling under the current economic conditions, and develop new methods of service delivery amidst a worldwide pandemic. *(continued on p. 3)* 

RIGHT: NEUAC bid farewell to Treasurer David Rinebolt in August of 2021. Dave will be remembered for his musicality, sense of humor, and tireless dedication to energy affordability. He won the Sister Pat Kelley Award in 2020.





Despite the many challenges, there was still cause for celebration. On August 13, the network paused to celebrate 40 years since LIHEAP, groundbreaking federal energy affordability legislation, was signed into law. Since 1981, LIHEAP has helped make energy more accessible and improved affordability through bill assistance, weatherization, and addressing energy crises. To honor the occasion, NEUAC gathered submissions for a time capsule, which was sealed in September, to be opened on the 50th anniversary of LIHEAP. A tweetstorm on drew attention to the need for energy affordability and the impact of LIHEAP over time.

NEUAC grew our membership to 222 in 2021, welcoming 32 new members (p. 7). The conference, held virtually for the second successive year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, attracted 585 utility affordability professionals, including water utilities and affordability program staff (p. 5). LI-HEAP Action Day, also virtual, brought home the message of energy needs and reached 38 appropriators and more than 100 staff members in Congressional offices (p. 4). The success of our advocacy is evident in the numbers: LIHEAP received unprecedented funding of more than \$8 billion in federal

Thank you for your support and courage in 2021 in addressing burgeoning and ongoing energy, health, and economic crises.

Together, we will continue to make utility affordability a priority.

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Sincerely,

Executive Director, National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition

## LIHEAP ACTION DAY 2021-VIRTUAL



#### LIHEAP ACTION DAY BY THE NUMBERS

- Official attendees: 234
- Number of organizations: 107
- Training attendees: 187
- Number of meetings: 195
- Number of states: 49
- Number of territories: 1
- House appropriators staff meetings: 26
- Senate appropriators staff meetings: 12
- Registration Revenue 2021 \$3,825
- Registration Revenue 2020 \$1,575



## **UNITING FOR AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY**

#### NEUAC 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Total registrants and attendees



BREAKDOWN BY REGISTRATION TYPE	
Corporate/Utility NEUAC Member	15%
Corporate/Utility NEUAC Non-Member	4%
Non-Profit Government/Tribe Member	42%
Non-Profit Government/Tribe Non-Member	30%
Sponsor	8%

#### VIRTUAL POVERTY SIMULATION REGISTRATIONS

116

HIGHLY ATTENDED PLENARY AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS				
Session	Views			
Welcome and Plenary Session day 1	428			
Welcome and Keynote Speaker day 2	382			
Compassionate Utility Practices to Reach Vulnerable Populations	255			
Communications within the Culture of Poverty	233			
How to Greatly Expand the Enrollment in Energy Assistance Programs	214			

#### HISTORIC REGISTRATION

Virtual Event	Virtual Event	Fort Worth	Phoenix, AZ	Fort Lauderdale, FL
June 8-9, 2021	August 4-5, 2020	June 3-5, 2019	June 25-28, 2018	June 26-28, 2017
Total 585	Total 648	Total 604	Total 660	Total 618

## **UNITING FOR AN EQUITABLE RECOVERY**

**NEUAC 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE MAJOR SPONSORS** 



#### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS

TXU Energy (Vistra Energy) Atmos Energy Entergy Services, Inc. **SMUD** Edison Electric Institute Salt River Project National Grid Citizens Energy Group Southern California Gas Co Florida Power and Light DTE Energy Baltimore Gas & Electric Spire CenterPoint Energy National Rural Electric Coop Association **TECO Energy Consumers Energy** New Jersey Natural Gas Tacoma Public Utilities NiSource/Columbia Gas of PA Black Hills Energy Washington Gas **Dollar Energy Fund** ConEdison APPRISE FirstEnergy

Alliant Energy Corporation Central Coast Energy Services, Inc. Duke Energy The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) ONE Gas Oklahoma and Texas HeartShare Human Services of New York National Community Action Partnership Mid America Assistance Coalition Pepco Holdings PECO **Operation Fuel** Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Arizona Public Service Nest Labs The Manchester Group Southern California Edison Co. Southwest Gas Corporation WEC Energy Group SEEL LLC **Electrical District No. 3** 

US Gas and Electric PSE&G Applied Energy Group **Distributed Energy Financial Group** LLC (DEFG) Kansas City Power & Light Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina **Xcel Energy** United Way Of Broward County National Energy Assistance Directors' Association Bidgely **Dominion Energy** Energy Outreach Colorado Huntsville Utilities National Grid Operation Fuel, Inc. **OPOWER** PECO **Peoples Natural Gas** Pepco Holdings **PPL Electric** San Diego Gas & Electric Solix. Inc. Vermont Energy Investment Corp. (VEIC) Washington Gas

## **MEMBERSHIP 2021**

#### MEMBER RETENTION

Year	Total # of Members	Total # of NEW Members	Retention Rate
2018	170	35	83%
2019	206	62	85%
2020	216	39	86%
2021	222	29	83%



Many thanks to our devoted members for their continued support in FY21, especially during a year of strife, pared down budgets, and while juggling the effects of the pandemic in your communities.

NEUAC is proud to partner with you to fight energy poverty

and maintain stability for households across the country.

You are appreciated!

Sincerely,

Katrina Metzler, Executive Director on behalf of The NEUAC Board Membership Committee The NEUAC Board of Directors

	2015	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	_	2021	F
Non-Profit	5	В	53		72		73		103		99		104
Utility	3	3	30		44		46		43		48		50
Government	10	D 📕	12		16		17		30		29		26
Municipal Utility	•	3	4		4	÷	5		6		11		13
Corporation		3 🔳	3		10		10		4		7		11
Tribal Nation	•	3 📕	3		3	÷	5	•	8	•	7		9
Trade Association		4	6		9		9		6		7		7
Individual	•	2	5		5		5		6		8	•	2

#### Total NEUAC members



#### NEUAC Memberships by Year



#### Welcome New Members in 2021

ABC Trust
Arkansas Community Action Agencies Association, Inc.
Bidgely
Calico Energy
Central Hudson Gas & Electric
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Community Action Association of Pennsylvania
Community Action Pioneer Valley
Community Software Group
E4thefuture
Florida Council on Aging
Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation (GEDCO)
H Gil Peach & Associates LLC
HELP Initiative, Inc.
Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Maryland Office of People's Counsel
Morris County Organization for Hispanic Affairs
North Coast Energy Services, Inc.
NuTiliti Inc.
NYSERDA
Oglala Sioux Tribe
PA Public Utility Commission
Pierce County Human Services
Sabrina Cowden Consulting, LLC
Solar Stewards
South Central Human Resource Agency
South Jersey Gas
Spectrum Community Services

#### **NEUAC ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

## **FUNDRAISING 2021**







#### THE HIGHLIGHTS

Total number of donors increased **130%** from 2020 to 2021.

Additionally, total support from donors reached a new historic high for the organization of **more than \$400,000**.

DONOR STATISTICS	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of total Donors	35	37	33	37
Retained Donors: No of donors who gave in year X that				
also gave in year (X-1)	27	27	28	25
Retention Rate	69%	77%	76%	76%
Number of new donors compared to prior year	8	10	5	12
Number of lapsed donors compared to prior year	12	8	9	8
Average of all donations	\$ 8,214	\$ 9,866	\$ 9,841	\$10,560
Average donation of lapsed donors	\$ 4,242	\$ 7,785	\$ 3,000	\$10,750
Average donation of new donors	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,245	\$ 6,101	\$9,250

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Congressional Briefing on LIHEAP** 

January 28, 2021

145 registered attendees

#### HHS/NEUAC/NACWA Joint LIHWAP

Webinar

August 12, 2021

469 registered

#### **Utility Summit Webinar Series**

Part 1: Third-Party Gift Programs—January 21, 2021

Part 2: Innovation in Utility Assistance Programs— February 2, 2021

Part 3: Marketing Utility Assistance Programs— February 18,2021

#### LIHEAP Action Month

August 2021



#### LIHEAP 40th Anniversary

August 13, 2021







**Extra Mile Award** Senator John Hoeven North Dakota





Sister Pat Kelley Award Liz Berube Citizens for Citizens, Massachusetts

#### **Corporate Leadership** Award

Tacoma Public Utilities Customer Service Team Washington State

