

**neuac**

NATIONAL ENERGY & UTILITY  
AFFORDABILITY COALITION

# Board of Directors Spring Meeting

**February 23, 2026**

Washington, DC

American Gas Association

400 N. Capitol St.

**Hope is a verb with its sleeves rolled up.**

– Professor and Poet David Orr





**Welcome:  
Karen Harbert  
President and CEO  
American Gas Association**

# Meeting Expectations

1. **We are all equal.** In the room, at this time, each of us – regardless of position – are welcome and encouraged to participate.
2. **“WAIT”** – Why am I talking? Why aren't I talking? We will tap into the wisdom of the group, not focus on the opinions of individuals. **No single person(s) shall dominate the conversation.** Monitor your own air time.
3. **Be open and respectful.** We will seek first to understand and give full consideration to new ideas, approaches and creative processes. We will question our own assumptions and those of our colleagues in order to think creatively. We will not fixate on past practices and will instead be flexible to change or new ideas.
4. **Speak from your own experience.** We will listen to each other and suspend judgments. We will respect all kinds of knowledge and value the full spectrum of knowledge in attendance; use “I” statements and resist expressing assumptions about the experience of others or asking others to speak on behalf of a group.
5. **Be present and listen deeply.** Our conversation is not about convincing each other, but rather about listening and providing your full attention to everything and everyone and then deciding what it all means.

# Meeting Expectations

6. **Final decisions are final.** Each of us will be heard, but that doesn't mean each of us will get what we want. It's okay to disagree. When issues are important and people care, they argue, but once we decide, each of us will accept and respect the organization's decisions.
7. If we notice something of concern during a meeting, we have an obligation to speak up. If you choose not to provide input on decisions, it will be assumed that parties are amenable to decisions made. **Discussion happens during meetings, not before or after.**
8. **Stay on track.** We agree to focus on the meeting agenda and work diligently to stay on track.
9. **Be conscious of intent vs. impact.** The things we say or do may have a negative impact on others, despite our intent. Be accountable for the impact of your actions and words.
10. **Be aware of power dynamics.** Notice how you might be subconsciously using your power or privilege and hold awareness of histories of injustice.
11. **Avoid jargon, acronyms, and industry language.** Use inclusive language that is accessible to people with varying sector knowledge.

# Agenda

- 1:10 PM** Call to order, establishment of quorum, new member introductions, meeting expectations
- 1:15 PM** Children's HealthWatch Presentation
- 1:45 PM** Minutes of Previous Meeting
- 1:50 PM** Committee Reports
  - Finance
  - Conference
  - Membership & Fundraising
  - Nominations
  - Public Policy & Advocacy
  - Site Selection
  - Executive
- 2:50 PM** Executive Director's Report
- 4:00 PM** Updates from Partners/Announcements
- 4:30 PM** Motion to Adjourn



# **Energy Security & Child and Family Health**

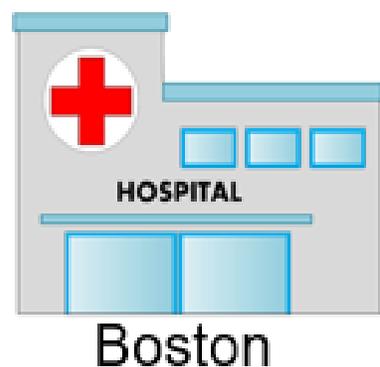
Charlotte Bruce  
Director of Policy



- Founded in 1998
- Headquartered at Boston Medical Center
- Additional research sites in AR, MN, PA (detail on next slide)
- **Mission Statement:** To achieve health equity for young children and their families by advancing research to transform policy
- Our **research** shows how economic hardships and public policies affect the health and development of infants and toddlers



# Children's HealthWatch Data



Survey data:

Caregivers in Pediatric  
EDs & Primary Care  
Clinics in 5 US Cities;

Child age 0-4 years  
(1998-present)

# Energy Insecurity

“consistent access to enough of the kinds of energy needed for a healthy and safe life in the geographic area where a household is located”

**PEDIATRICS**<sup>®</sup>  
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

**A Brief Indicator of Household Energy Security: Associations With Food Security, Child Health, and Child Development in US Infants and Toddlers**  
John T. Cook, Deborah A. Frank, Patrick H. Casey, Ruth Rose-Jacobs, Maureen M. Black, Mariana Chilton, Stephanie Ettinger deCuba, Danielle Appugliese, Sharon Coleman, Timothy Heeren, Carol Berkowitz and Diana B. Cutts  
*Pediatrics* 2008;122:e867-e875  
DOI: 10.1542/peds.2008-0286

## 4 questions:

1. Threatened shut-off due to difficulty paying bills
2. Actual shut-off due to difficulty paying bills
3. Unheated/uncooled day in the last year
4. Use of a cooking stove for heat

**Moderate:** threatened shut off

**Severe:** actual shut off, unheated/uncooled day, and/or use of cooking stove

# Energy Insecurity & Health Outcomes

- Our research shows that children in energy insecure households are more likely to:
  - Be in fair or poor health
  - Be at risk for developmental delays
  - Have ever been hospitalized since birth
  - Be food insecure
  - Have moved 2+ times in past year

# Heat Exposure in Pregnancy

Critical windows of susceptibility for the effects of prenatal exposure to heat and heat variability on gestational growth

Jeffrey M. Carlson<sup>a,\*</sup>, Antonella Zanobetti<sup>b</sup>, Stephanie Ettinger de Cuba<sup>c,d</sup>, Ana P. Poblacion<sup>d,e</sup>, Patricia M. Fabian<sup>a</sup>, Fei Carnes<sup>a</sup>, Jongeun Rhee<sup>b</sup>, Kevin J. Lane<sup>a</sup>, Megan T. Sandel<sup>a,c</sup>, Patricia A. Janulewicz<sup>a</sup>

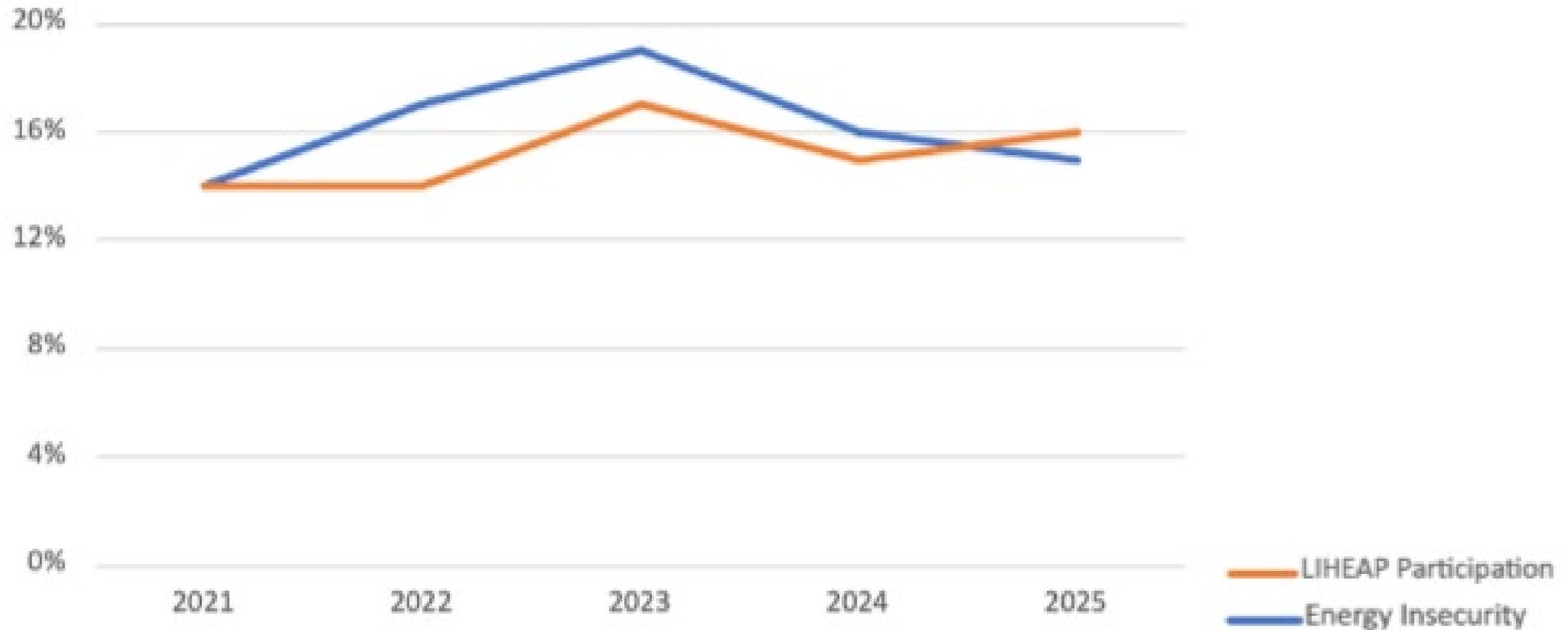
Examined birth outcomes (birthweight and small-for-gestational-age) among infants < 3 months old + temperature and heat index (temperature + humidity during pregnancy)

- Windows of susceptibility in pregnancy – reinforces research on 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester heat exposure + LBW, newly finds impact in 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester (when fetus grows in length)
- Mothers who experienced homelessness during pregnancy 10x odds of SGA and a 420g decrease in BW for every degree (c) hotter weekly in 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester
- Demonstrates prenatal impact, need for cooling assistance

# LIHEAP: A Rx for Energy Insecurity

- Compared to eligible non-participants, children in families that received LIHEAP were:
  - **Less likely to be at risk for growth problems**
  - **More likely to have healthier weights for their age**
  - **Less likely to need to be hospitalized** when seeking care for acute medical problems
  - **More likely to be housing secure**
- However, participation is persistently low
  - Chronic underfunding – doesn't meet need
  - Limited outreach, particularly among families with young children

# Energy Insecurity Prevalence & LIHEAP Participation, 2021-2025



## Q & A

- What would be helpful for our data to answer?
- Contact: [charlotte.bruce@bmc.org](mailto:charlotte.bruce@bmc.org)

# Finance Committee

Marietta Doney, Treasurer



# Conference Committee

Shaylee Stokes

Latoya Butler

Glenis Scott

Kim Campbell Hailey



# neuac

**MOVING THE NEEDLE**

SEATTLE, WA • 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# Conference Highlights

- **Seattle Soire Reception**
  - Wear your **PLAID**
- **Wx Simulation: “My Aunt’s House”**
- **AI Track**
- **Tour of Byrd Barr Place**
- **Conversations on LIHEAP Reauthorization**
- **In progress possibilities: Live music, coffee stations, Bigfoot sightings, Puget Sound cruise and more!**



# Other Conference Updates

- Lunch on-your-own on second full day of the conference
- [Sponsorship](#) and [Exhibitor](#) Packets
- Mariners vs. Cubs
  
- Still discussing...
  - Plenary Speakers
  
- Special Sponsorship Opportunities:
  - Eight Generations (Snoqualamie) Tribe Blanket for Auction
  - Transportation to Baseball Game
  - Byrd Barr Place Tour
  - Bigfoot Photo Booth Opportunity
  - ...or get creative with your own idea!

# Membership & Fundraising Committee

Katrina Metzler



# Membership

2025

**307**

Final #  
2025 members

**108%**  
of 285 goal

**91%**

retention rate  
for all 2024  
members

**83%**

retention rate  
for 2024's  
30 new members  
*\*incl 11 late-2024 deals*

2026

**218**

Current #  
2026 members

**70%**  
of 310 goal

**69%**

retention rate  
for all 2025  
members

**67%**

retention rate  
for 2025's  
36 new member  
*\*incl 11 late-2025 deals*

# Sponsorship

2025

**\$546,078**

pledged from 48 organizations  
+ 2 individuals

**111%**

of \$490,000 goal

2026

**\$482,500**

pledged from 33 organizations

**88%**

of \$550,000 goal

# Thank you, 2026 sponsors!

## Legacy



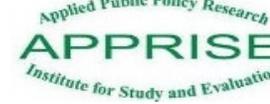
## Champion



## Supporter



## Friend



## Patron



# Feb 10 Member Briefing - Guests

- American Samoa Territorial Energy Office - 1
- Appliance Standards Awareness Project (ASAP) - 1
- CHN Housing Partners - 1
- Citizens Utility Board - 1
- Congressional Research Service - 1
- CSKT DHRD LIHEAP - 1
- GA Public Service Commission - 1
- GLEAMNS HRC - 1
- Great Lakes Community Action Partnership - 1
- Greenbound - 1
- IVEDC - 1
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - 1
- Manatee County Gov't - 1
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services - 1
- Mi'kmaq Nation - 1
- Monument Advocacy - 1
- NiSource - 1
- North Shore Community Action Programs, Peabody, MA - 1
- OHCS-Oregon - 1
- Orange & Rockland Utilities - 1
- Peninsula Light - 1
- Pima County Community Workforce Division - 1
- PNM - 1
- PSCW - 1
- PULP - 1
- Roanoke Cooperative - 1
- SaverLife - 1
- SCANA Energy - 1
- SEMCO Energy Gas - 1
- SEPA - 1
- South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency - 1
- The Alaska Center - 1
- The Society of St Vincent de Paul-  
Detroit - 1
- Travis County, Health & Human Services - 4
- Tucson Electric Power/Unisource - 4
- United Way for Southeastern Michigan - 3
- Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency - 1
- Virginia Dept of Social Services - 1
- Western Indiana Community Action Agency - 1
- Wisconsin PSC - 2
- WV Department of Human Services - 1

# Membership Outreach at Conference

- **Past conferences:**
  - Personal assignments to greet a non-member
  - NEUAC booth
  - Non-members invited to Annual Membership Meeting
- **This year:**
  - Unmanned booth, Tight Ship answer Qs

# 2024-2026 Strategic Plan

- Evaluate membership tier structure to increase access for small entities (e.g., change org size thresholds to encourage more small co-ops)
- Increase representation from rural communities, as well as tribes/Native organizations

## 2025 Member by Org Type/Level

	Count by Dues Paid					Total	Sum Paid
	\$0	\$100	\$350	\$600	\$1,600		
Nonprofit	7		36	111		154	\$79,200
Government	3			36		39	\$21,600
Tribal Nation			6	3		9	\$3,900
Utility	39				22	61	\$35,200
Municipal Utility	10				9	19	\$14,400
Corporation			5	1	6	12	\$11,950
Trade Association	5		1		2	8	\$3,550
Individual		5				5	\$500
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>\$170,300</b>

# Current Membership Levels

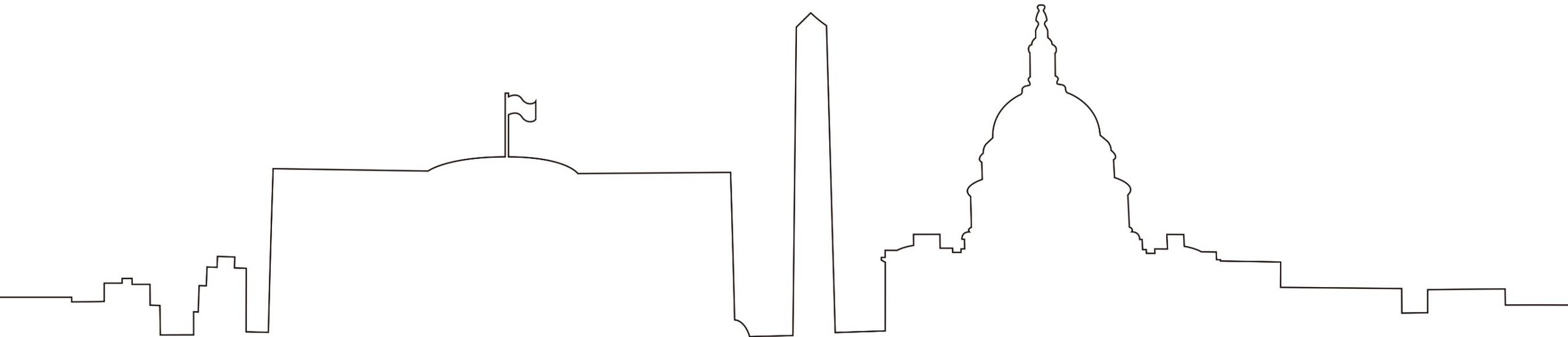
	Investor-Owned Utility, Trade Association	Co-op Utility, Public Power Utility	Corporation	Nonprofit, Tribe, Government	Individuals <i>*Retired NEUAC Board Members</i>
<b>\$1,600</b>	ALL	>\$5 million annual operating budget	>\$5 million annual operating budget		
<b>\$600</b>		\$2-5 million annual operating budget	\$2-5 million annual operating budget	>\$2 million annual operating budget	
<b>\$350</b>		<\$2 million annual operating budget	<\$2 million annual operating budget	<\$2 million annual operating budget	
<b>\$100</b>					ALL

# Nominations



# Public Policy & Advocacy Committee

Kate Brownlee & Ben Jackson



# PP&A Report

- Policy Update
- LIHWAP Bill – Lisa Blunt Rochester
- Vote: Hyatt contract 2027 (published to Insider page)
  - Dates
    - February 23 State Team Meetings/Policy Update
    - February 24 LIHEAP Action Day
  - Rate
    - \$369/night + tax, fees

# Action Day 2026 By the Numbers

*(approximate)*

- Registered attendees **308 from 45 states + DC**

**286 NEUAC Members**

- Attendee characteristics

**24 Non-Members**

- 76 Nonprofits**

- 4 Governments**

- 207 Utilities**

- 2 Corporations**

- 9 Trades**

- 4 Tribes**

- 8 Individuals**

- Legislative meetings **216+**

- All Parties Letter **749 unique signers**  
**1,054 total signatures**

## LARGEST STATE TEAMS

- Michigan - 20
- Texas - 19
- Massachusetts - 18
- Florida - 17

## MOST MEETINGS

- Florida - 13
- New York - 13
- Illinois - 12
- Michigan - 12
- Texas
- Virginia - 12

## STATE WITH MOST ALL PARTIES LETTER SIGNATURES

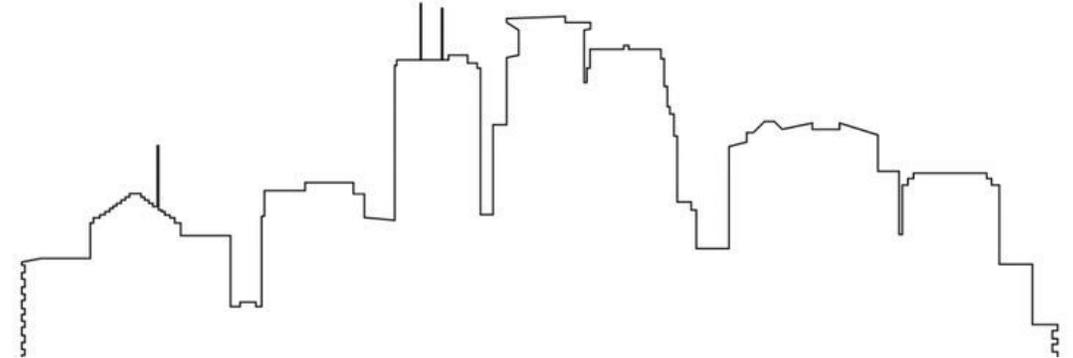
- Florida - 144



# Site Selection Report

## ■ Minneapolis Site Visit

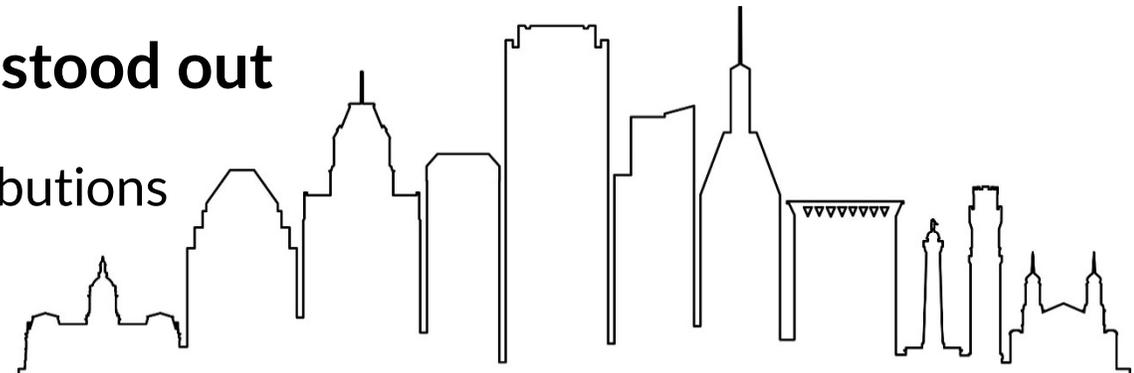
- Visiting Hilton Minneapolis and Hyatt Regency in March
- HYATT REGENCY
  - 2028 Dates: June 2-8
    - Rate: \$241/nt.
  - 2029 Dates: June 1-7 or 8-14
    - Rate: \$251/nt.
- HILTON
  - 2028 Dates: June 2-8
    - Rate: \$269/nt.
  - 2029 Dates: June 1-7 or 8-14
    - Rate: \$279/nt.



## ■ Baltimore Site Visit

### ■ Visited two hotels in December, one option stood out

- Baltimore Marriott Waterfront
- Tie-in to Victorine Q. Adams, celebrate her contributions
  - 2028 Dates: June 12-15
    - Rate: \$269/nt.
  - 2029 Dates: June 8-14
    - Rate: \$279



# Executive Committee

Mike Bradford



# Executive Committee Activity

- **VOTE: Committee decision to be ratified by full board**
  - Pause JEDI Committee until 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2026
  - Language for All Parties Letter
  - Extra Mile Awardee – Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (WV)
  - Extension of current lease with NCAP through April 30, 2026
  - Planning Meeting in San Antonio – Hotel Contract

# Executive Director's Report

## LAD Discussion

Record Attendance

Vote: Pricing/Hotel 2027

Overlaps and coordination, budget

## DC Office - Lease Update

## Annual Report

## Strategic Plan Update

Vote: Extend for one year through December 31, 2027

## Projects for Discussion

Reauthorization Forums

(Semi) Annual Utility Assistance Programs Survey

Grant Opportunity – Children's HealthWatch

# Partner Updates & Announcements



# Upcoming Events

5/18/2026	Summer Board of Directors Meeting	Seattle, WA
5/18/2026	NEUAC Pre-Conference	Seattle, WA
5/19-5/21/2026	NEUAC Annual Conference	Seattle, WA
6/8-12/2026	NEUAC Audit Field Work	Washington, DC
6/22/2026	Sister Pat Kelley's Birthday	
August	LIHEAP Action Month	
9/9/2026	Conference Planning Meeting	San Antonio, TX
9/10/2026	Fall Board of Directors Meeting	San Antonio, TX
12/2/2026	Winter Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual

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# Contact Us

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