

**Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency
2006 Annual Report
July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006**

Background

Organized in 2002, Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency (HUEE) promotes energy efficiency in the Greater Kansas City marketplace by working with nonprofit organizations to help assure a secure energy future for area residents. HUEE may be the only collaborative of gas and electric utilities in the nation dedicated to working together on local residential energy efficiency issues. HUEE utilities contribute both staff time and funding to support residential energy efficiency education projects serving the greater Kansas City metropolitan area.

2006 HUEE Membership:

Aquila Inc.

Atmos Energy

Independence Power and Light

Kansas City Board of Public Utilities

Kansas City Power and Light

Missouri Gas Energy

Through a fund administered by the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, HUEE awards grants to nonprofit organizations to implement energy efficiency education projects. From July 31, 2002 through March 30, 2006, HUEE has awarded 19 grants to area nonprofit organization totaling \$170,985.03. Project activities have ranged from a local radio talk show on energy conservation to workshops for low-income households to implementation of a regional energy efficiency hot line.

Grantees receiving funding include the Metropolitan Energy Center, Community Services League, Seton Center Family and Health, Affordable Comfort, Inc., and Kaw Valley Habitat for Humanity.

2006 HUEE Fund Contributions

Each HUEE member utility annually contributes five cents per residential electric and gas meter located in the counties of Jackson, Platte, Clay, Ray and Cass in Missouri and Johnson, Wyandotte and Leavenworth in Kansas. These contributions are placed in the HUEE fund administered by the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation for the sole purpose of granting funds to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations for eligible residential energy efficiency projects in the eight county area. Grant awards are determined by the HUEE Board comprised of a representative of each member utility.

2005-06 Activities

Grants totaling \$52,970 were awarded by HUEE to the Metropolitan Energy Center during the period from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 for various energy efficiency projects:

Energy Information Help Line

The Metropolitan Energy Center established a regional energy efficiency and renewable consumer energy help line (phone number 816-835-1803) for the Kansas City metropolitan area. The line is answered by Metropolitan Energy Center staff and the phone number is being widely advertised to area residents. Project is on-going as of June 30, 2006.

Project Living Proof Energy Education Project

The Metropolitan Energy Center is coordinating a project know as "Project Living Proof". This project will restore two modest residences in an older urban Kansas City neighborhood and will showcase sustainable energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation features that can be applied to similar homes. "Project Living Proof" will also provide educational and training programs for students, professionals and the general public. HUEE is supporting this project through a grant for education components related to the project. As of June 30, 2006 the project was in the design and development stage.

Save Energy Save Money Workshops

The Metropolitan Energy Center conducted eleven residential energy efficiency workshops in various locations through the metropolitan area with an attendance total of 191 individuals. The project was completed in March, 2006.

In addition to these grants, the Community Services League continued to provide energy efficiency workshops for low-income households under a \$26,806.00 grant awarded on March 10, 2005. Through June 30, 2006, 84 workshops were conducted by the Community Services League serving 859 people. The project will be completed in July, 2006.

Community Events

During the year, HUEE was also participated in Kansas City area events by providing staff and energy conservation materials at:

October 1, 2005 Heartland Renewable Energy Society's Sustainable Home Tour and Energy Fair

February 10-12, 2006 Kansas City Remodeling Show

March 23-26, 2006 Kansas City Home Show

Through HUEE's participation in these public forums, energy efficiency and renewable energy information and materials were distributed to residents throughout the metro area.

Looking Forward

As is the case in most of the United States, the Kansas City area is going through a period of increasing energy costs, including higher gas and electric costs. Through HUEE, area investor-owned and municipally-owned utilities are working together to fund residential energy efficiency initiatives to provide consumers with the tools and information necessary to deal with higher energy prices. Through these energy efficiency initiatives, HUEE is also aiding the local economy by reducing the export of energy dollars from the region.

In the upcoming year, HUEE will continue to work with local non-profit organizations to promote residential energy efficiency in the Greater Kansas City Area. Efforts are already underway to develop new initiatives and partner relationships to promote energy awareness and energy saving tools for consumers and businesses.

Goals for the year are to 1) enlarge HUEE membership, 2) broaden the scope of HUEE funded activities in the region, and 3) work with more local and state agencies to affect meaningful change in the Kansas City residential energy market.