



# Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency

## 2012 Annual Report

*“Promoting energy efficiency in the Greater Kansas City Marketplace through energy education, resources and actions to help assure a secure energy future for area residents”*

### MEMBER UTILITIES:

Atmos Energy  
Independence Power and Light  
Platte-Clay Electric Cooperative

Kansas Gas Service  
Kansas City Board of Public Utilities

HUEE is a community service project of the member utilities and is a fund of the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation

## **BACKGROUND**

Organized in 2002, Heartland Utilities for Energy Efficiency (HUEE) is a vehicle for leading electric and gas utilities to advance a mission for the public good: "Promote progressive energy efficiency in the Regional Kansas City marketplace through energy education, resources and actions to help assure a secure energy future for area residents." As such, it may be the only dues-paying collaborative of natural gas, propane and electric utilities in the nation working together on residential energy efficiency issues. In furtherance of this mission, member utilities contribute staff time to HUEE and charitable dollars to the Energy Efficiency Education Fund established at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation.

The Greater Kansas City Community Foundation is a public charity under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3). Its mission is to improve the quality of life in Greater Kansas City by increasing charitable giving, connecting donors to community needs they care about, and providing leadership on critical community issues.

HUEE currently works within the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) "*Tier One Region*" which includes eight counties: Cass, Clay, Platte and Ray in Missouri, and Johnson, Leavenworth and Wyandotte in Kansas. The organization devotes its efforts to activities that promote and support the overall goal of improved energy efficiency without endorsing particular products, equipment or energy sources.

On an annual basis, HUEE makes grants to nonprofit organizations to implement specific education projects. It's Board of Directors, whose members are drawn from the participating utilities that provide service in the above counties, makes funding decisions and provides overall governance.

### **2012 HUEE Board of Directors**

Gary Milligan – Atmos Energy (Board Chair)  
Patrice Townsend – BPU (Board Vice-Chair)  
Margaret Steele – KGS (Board Secretary)

Mary Kay Alitz – IP&L  
Linda Richardson - PCEC  
David Allen – BPU (Alternate)

### **HUEE's Activities and Accomplishments**

In 2012, HUEE awarded \$24,080 in grants towards educating the public and utility customers on energy efficiency. The organizations major cumulative accomplishments are listed below:

**Public Awareness through Media:** HUEE implemented its Public Awareness program through a complete redesign of the HUEE website and advertisements in *Greenability Magazine*.

**Public Service Announcement School Challenge -** A public service announcement (PSA) contest to create public awareness about energy wasting habits and how to correct those habits in the home and/or school. The contest is an exciting opportunity to engage middle school students to be creative and learn more about energy efficiency and sustainability.

Schools receiving grants from the 2012 PSA School Challenge were as follows:

- Spring Hill Middle School, Spring Hill, KS
- Pioneer Ridge Middle School, Independence, MO
- Clark Middle School, Bonner Springs, KS
- Kearney Junior High School, Kearney, MO
- Arrowhead Middle School, Kansas City, KS
- Kearney Middle School, Kearney, MO

**Missouri Valley Community Action Agency** - will provide energy conservation workshops in Ray County, Missouri to demonstrate a variety of low cost simple to install materials that will reduce energy waste. These materials will include such items as shrink window kits, outlet insulators and weather stripping, as examples of ways to educate utility customers on reducing energy consumption and waste. Targeted goal through these energy conservation workshops will be to achieve an average of \$30.00 per month utility savings per household. MVACC will work through HUEE member PCEC to document utility savings.

**Truman Heritage Habitat for Humanity** – will contract with a qualified individual to conduct 39 site visits of current Habitat households located in Independence to provide direct assistance to the homeowner on increasing the household energy efficiency and lowering home energy costs. Conducting one on one meetings in the homes of these low-moderate income household families is believed to be the most effective way to reduce household energy consumption.

## **Looking Forward**

It has been an exciting year for HUEE as the board worked diligently accomplishing many of the goals set forth in the previous year. However our work is not done as we find our organization well positioned to take advantage of the renewed emphasis and importance of energy efficiency within the communities our utility companies serve. HUEE is committed to helping our communities in this renewed era of energy efficiency by offering energy saving information that helps reduce energy consumption while providing better value and comfort for customers' homes.

- HUEE has committed in 2013 to increase energy efficiency education among youth in utility service areas.
- Engage homeowners/residential communities in energy efficiency education in utility service areas.
- Increase membership of HUEE with utility and non-utility organizations.
- HUEE will continue outreach to the general public through public awareness by sponsoring educational energy efficiency programs.