



**ENERGY  
OUTREACH  
COLORADO**  
Together We Power Stability

# NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

## From the CEO and Executive Director



Jennifer Gremmert

Coloradans experienced dramatically higher energy costs this year, and as a result we are still seeing vulnerable households struggle to pay their bills.

This fiscal year, we will distribute nearly \$20 million in energy assistance, a 25% increase over last year. Even though we have provided more bill assistance this year, we are projecting a \$5-\$10 million shortfall between what we can support and what people in need owe.

Many people, like you, jumped into action to help us provide energy assistance to our community members, but the gap in available resources persists.

That is why our work is so important. With your

support, we are creating long-term affordability reform and building a suite of services so that during times of need, we can meet any increase in demand.

I am pleased to share our Summer Newsletter with you, highlighting our impact through partnerships, programs, and the people we serve.

Thank you for making this critical mission a part of your vision for a better and brighter future for all.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gremmert, CEO & Executive Director

Nearly **\$20M** Energy assistance distributed by EOC in this fiscal year

**25%** Increase over last year

### PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Let me introduce you to Donna, an older adult who lives on a fixed income and has trouble breathing when it's hot outside. One of Donna's neighbors suggested she contact EOC. After evaluating her home, we found ways to make it cooler and more comfortable for Donna, without costing her extra money. We installed an air conditioner, added insulation to the attic, and sealed the windows. These changes help Donna stay healthy during the

scorching summers without worrying about expensive energy bills.

Donna's story is just one example of the challenges faced by people dealing with the daily struggle of high energy costs. Your generous support enables us to make a long-lasting impact, ensuring that our neighbors in need have a safe and comfortable place to live. Thank you for helping us provide this crucial assistance that can truly change lives!



# Powering Communities through Volunteerism

In 2022, EOC launched a new volunteer experience for our supporters and corporate sponsors. ConSERVE is a service event that provides our champions and partners the opportunity to build and pack energy conservation kits for Coloradans in need. Each of these kits provides a household with energy-efficiency items that can reduce their annual utility costs by more than \$300 and up to 1,800-kilowatt hours per year. With the help of our sponsors, EOC has provided 200 energy conservation kits to residents in the Denver Metro Area and the City of Pueblo. Our supporters, Liberty Energy, Onward Energy and Pivot Energy have taken the step to assist vulnerable Coloradans through ConSERVE. If you are interested in learning more, please visit [www.energyoutreach.org/conserve-22/](http://www.energyoutreach.org/conserve-22/).

\$300+

Potential annual utility cost savings from ConSERVE energy conservation kits

1,800

Potential annual kilowatt hour savings from ConSERVE energy conservation kits

200

Number of energy conservation kits provided to energy-burdened residents



## Illuminating Hope and Healing

**Denver Children's Home, a nonprofit organization that restores hope and health to traumatized children and families, recently underwent a transformative lighting project.**

Energy Outreach Colorado's Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program (NEEP) led this project to enhance energy efficiency and create a more comfortable and energy efficient environment for those it serves.

The NEEP program replaced 618 interior and exterior light fixtures with modern LED lighting. This significant upgrade not only improved illumination, but also contributed to long-term energy savings.

The NEEP contractor and long-time partner, Elevation Lighting,



showed exceptional respect and sensitivity toward the children residing in the home.

With the installation of energy efficient LED lighting, Denver Children's Home anticipates **annual cost savings up to \$9,500**. These savings will be redirected to support vital programs and services that bring hope and healing to the children and families under their care.

The efforts of EOC's programming demonstrate the profound impact of energy efficiency initiatives. By combining our resources and expertise, the nonprofits we serve have a brighter future.

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# THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

This past winter, Energy Outreach Colorado received more calls for bill assistance than any year on record. With so many households struggling to afford their home energy costs, we reached out to our community of supporters to help us meet the rising demand.

A coalition of eight energy partners came together to raise over \$1 million to address the impact of high energy costs on income-qualified households.

With the additional support provided by Xcel Energy, PDC Energy, Atmos Energy, Occidental Petroleum (OXY), Colorado Oil & Gas Association (COGA), Civitas Resources, Liberty Energy, and DCP Midstream, we were able to help more families with their immediate and critical needs by keeping their lights and heat on through the cold winter.

We are grateful for the power of partnerships like these and the generosity of people like you who help ensure others have a safe home and the ability to thrive.

*“We are proud to support our long-time partner, Energy Outreach Colorado, in their mission to help impacted Coloradans remain warm in their homes this winter. During this unprecedented time of high utility bills, EOC helps our neighbors focus on their families, not their energy bills.”*

**BARTON R. BROOKMAN, JR.**

*President and Chief Executive Officer, PDC Energy, Inc.*

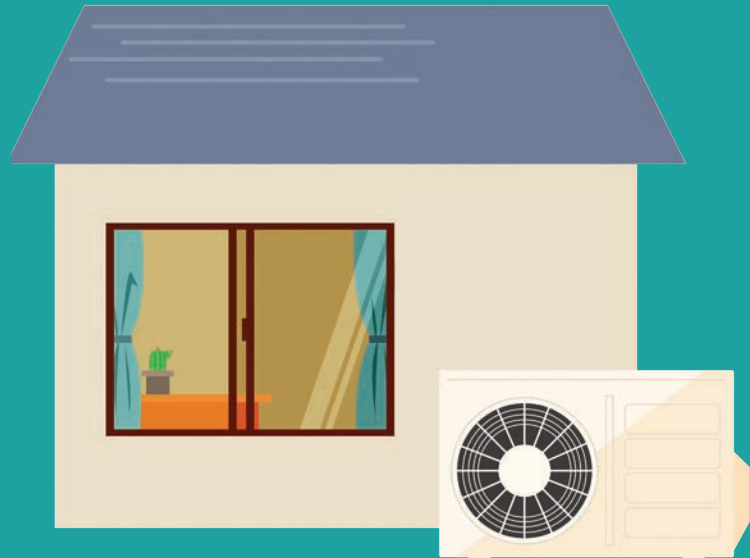


*“The staff of Denver Children’s home want to say that the NEEP contractors were fantastic to work with – efficient, respectful, and great around the children. It was a pleasure having them on this project.”*

# Beat the Heat and Cut Your Energy Costs

With hotter temperatures expected this summer, the cost to cool your home may be felt on your utility bill. Here are a few valuable tips to help you stay cool while also saving money:

- 1** Adjust your thermostat to a temperature that is comfortable for you, ideally at around 78 degrees Fahrenheit. Every 1-degree increase can save approximately 1% on your bill. Also, raise the temperature when you're away from home or asleep to reduce energy use.
- 2** Use fans instead of air conditioning whenever possible. Fans use less electricity and provide a cost-effective way to stay comfortable. Remember to turn them off when you leave the room.
- 3** Close curtains on south- and west-facing windows during the day to block out the sun.
- 4** Change to LED light bulbs to reduce heat generation and energy usage. Use lamps or natural light instead of relying solely on overhead room lighting.



By implementing these measures, you can enjoy a comfortable living space while minimizing electricity consumption and reducing your overall costs.

## DONATE: KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORS SAFE AND WARM

- ▶ You can donate to **Energy Outreach Colorado** through your credit card by texting **ENERGY** to **801801**
- ▶ **OR** visit us online at [www.energyoutreach.org/donate](http://www.energyoutreach.org/donate)
- ▶ **OR** by mail to **PO Box 176268 Denver, CO 80217-6268**



### GIVE A GIFT FROM YOUR IRA

By making a distribution of funds from your IRA, you can make a gift to EOC that may be excluded from your taxable income, and you receive the benefit of supporting your neighbors with their home energy.

Thank you.