

2024 Annual Report

Highlights & Accomplishments

CERTs Served More Than 300 Minnesota Communities

- 9 Tribal governments
- 38 school districts
- 46 electric and gas utilities and their associations
- 87 regional steering committee members.

Extended community reach across 68 MN counties with over 1,100 Community **Energy Ambassadors**.

Supported learning opportunities through forums like the Community Energy Network, which brought together **117 local government staff** to explore clean energy opportunities.



Provided direct assistance for programs like Solar for Schools: CERTs supported 43 schools within **22 districts** in procuring solar, including International Falls, Pine Point, and Roseville.

53.6 billion BTUs saved in 2024 from CERTs' efforts on energy efficiency and renewable energy.



Connected with 11,800+ community members through nearly **900 events and outreach** activities across MN.





Lowered energy costs for **3,400** energy-burdened households through distribution of energy-saving items and program information.

CERTS **Partners**











Advancing Clean Energy for Economic Benefits

Provided clean energy project assistance to **135 rural small businesses and farms** across the state, like the AmericInn solar energy project in Tofte.

Partnered with community-based organizations and community development financial institutions to provide **clean energy technical assistance to small businesses** in Minneapolis.

Supported **workforce development** efforts in Mahnomen, St. Cloud, and in the Arrowhead region.

Growing Local Efforts with CERTs Seed Grants

Awarded **45 CERTs Seed Grants** to community-led projects across Minnesota including:

- Detroit Lakes Library LED lighting upgrade.
- Granite Falls' Neighbors United Resource Center
 Food Shelf and their energy saving initiative.
- **Care and Share** of Crookston's energy efficient upgrades.
- Lighting upgrade for the **Murray County 4-H** building in Slayton.
- **Just Housing's** EmPOWERment project, introducing green building to Duluth contractors.
- **LifeGate Services'** clean energy outreach for African immigrant communities in Austin and Rochester.
- MN Interfaith Power and Light's efforts expanding the base of Community Energy Ambassadors.



Replacing lights at Detroit Lakes Library

CERTs + Becker County Food Pantry

Reducing Home Energy Burden

In communities like Appleton and Walker, **connected shoppers at 25 food shelves to resources** to reduce home energy costs.

Partnered with utilities, community action agencies, and nonprofits to **conduct energy efficiency "blitzes" in 19 manufactured home parks**, serving nearly 2,000 households.

