

WEST CENTRAL REGION



United Community Action Partnership, Inc.: In Home Education and Energy Saving Program

West Central MN – The United Community Action Partnership (United CAP) plans to work with clients in Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, and Renville counties to conduct in-home education sessions on energy upgrades and weatherization for eligible applicants. Clients may not be aware of opportunities to save on their energy bills and reduce consumption, but, by assessing their homes in person, United CAP will be able to determine if they are viable candidates for weatherization or appliance replacement. Energy savings in these cases provide significant financial benefits to clients. The funds provided by the CERTs Seed Grant will cover the cost of the staff labor required for effective outreach and implementation of this project. (\$5,000)

University of Minnesota Morris Campus: Community-Scale Energy Storage Guide for Renewable Energy

Morris, MN – The University of Minnesota-Morris, in partnership with the Energy Transition Lab, will develop a user-friendly energy storage guide and both print and web-based decision tools for community-level sites that are interested in using energy storage to maximize their renewable energy systems. This pilot project will benefit local communities and allow the Lab to gather valuable information on the value of effective energy storage systems in implementing successful clean energy projects within Minnesota communities. (\$4,000)

Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center: YES! Students Install Home Energy Kits

Spicer, MN – YES! students in grades 7 to 12 will install energy-saving devices at home. YES! will create a partnership with their local energy utility, assemble and distribute the Home Energy Kit with educational materials and a checklist to students, and then work with students to implement the Kit in their household. (\$5,000)

Greater Milan Initiative: Milan Community Center LED Retrofit Project

Milan, MN – The Greater Milan Initiative (GMI) will work in collaboration with its partners to retrofit the old Milan school building/community center with LED bulbs. The community center provides a comfortable, welcoming space to host recreational and educational activities such as sports and wellness events, family parties, church services, and meetings of the monthly 4-H club. Completion of the project will both increase the facility's energy efficiency and increase cost savings that will, in turn, allow GMI to allocate funding towards other community programming and capital projects. (\$4,200)

Winthrop Market: LED Lighting Upgrade for Sales Floor and Backroom

Winthrop, MN – Winthrop Market will replace 218 T8 and 6 T12 fixtures in its facility with new, energy-efficient LED bulbs. They are engaging a local electrical contractor to complete the project, and estimate that the switch will save them \$2,000 in utility bills per year. (\$1,800)