

North Salem Affordable Housing Site Gets PACE Energy Loan

by [Cassandra Huerta](#) 07/23/2015 news

Energize NY announced the completion of the first PACE loan for financing used on the Robson House in North Salem. Photo Credit: *Contributed* NORTH SALEM, N.Y. Energize NY announced on Tuesday another milestone achievement in clean energy financing with the completion of

the first PACE loan to finance energy improvements for affordable housing in New York State.

The financing was used to pay for energy efficiency upgrades to an intergenerational home known as Robson House, in North Salem, owned and operated by AHOME, a notforprofit based in Pleasantville, that rehabilitates, builds and manages affordable rental properties in northern Westchester for older adults, disabled individuals and singleparent families who cannot afford market rate housing.

As result of the upgrades, AHOME and its residents will reduce their energy bills by 31 percent annually and the home will be significantly more comfortable for residents.

The AHOME project was even more costeffective through the use of the \$4 million Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECBs) pool made available by Westchester County for energy upgrades to multifamily buildings with lowincome tenants and buildings owned by notforprofits.

“The AHOME project is the first of what we hope will be many QECBfunded energy improvement projects which will not only reduce the energy burden on low income residents, but also help notforprofit building owners better serve their communities,” said Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino.

Robson House, which was built in the late 1800's and is named for former AHOME board President Clark Robson, who led a capital campaign that enabled the purchase of the property, is home to senior citizens and single parent families.

“Robson House is the first of our properties to use Energize NY to finance an energy upgrade, but we are planning to upgrade our other properties, where appropriate, since these projects directly reduce our operating costs and improve our bottom line,” said Debbie Haglund, executive director of AHOME.

Energize NY makes clean energy improvements affordable and accessible for notforprofits and commercial building owners in NY State, by offering lowcost, longterm financing for up to the full cost of energy improvements that reduce energy consumption or generate renewable energy.

“It is very exciting to provide the first affordable housing PACE loan in NY State to AHOME and to incorporate QECBs into our lowcost financing platform,” said Mark Thielking, executive director of Energize NY.



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