

Press Release

Energize NY Celebrates 1,000 Energized Homes in Northern Westchester

May 11, 2016

Energize NY, a New York State non-profit Local Development Corporation (LDC), celebrated the passage of an important milestone with Westchester homeowners, local community and municipal leaders and energy efficiency contractors on Tuesday evening May 10th in Bedford NY, the first community to launch Energize NY.

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The event in Bedford Hills Memorial Park celebrated the completion of 1000 Energized Homes in northern Westchester since launching the Energize NY “Bedford Pilot” in 2011. Over 100 people attended, including homeowners whom Energize has helped guide through the energy upgrade process, local energy efficiency experts, sustainability and energy groups and municipal leaders.

These 1000 homeowners are benefiting not only from having reduced their energy consumption and bills, but also from a more comfortable and better performing home as a result of energy efficiency improvements that they made. Energized homeowner Omar Guevara of Ossining said "we have an old house that lacked insulation and that motivated us to get an energy assessment." He added that "winters felt much colder and our bills were significantly higher before the energy efficiency work was completed."

The current total of 1,025 Energized homes has generated \$12,980,000 in direct local economic activity, over \$5,100,000 in total energy savings and 5,125 tons of GhG reductions, which is the same as removing 1,068 cars from Westchester roadways.

Chris Burdick, Supervisor of the Town of Bedford and Chairman of the Board of Sustainable Westchester, spoke at the event and stated, “Bedford and the other municipalities of Sustainable Westchester really benefit from programs like Energize NY that align with the sustainability and clean air goals of our towns, operate so effectively and at no cost to the town, and benefit our constituents financially.”

Building Performance Contractor Association (BPCA) Executive Director Conrad Metcalfe also attended the event and said “The Energize program has boosted Home Performance upgrades and helped several Westchester businesses in my association to greatly increase their work over the past several years. It’s been a win-win-win for homeowners, contractors and communities in this part of New York State.”

The 1000th home event recognized the achievements of Energize NY volunteers, local leaders and champions, homeowners and the contractors in the Energize NY Comfort Corps. The party and awards ceremony celebrated their efforts and the energy that made this milestone a reality. Event partners included: BrightHome Energy Solutions, Healthy Home Energy & Consulting, Bruni & Campisi Energy & Conservation Services, Bedford 2020, Cortlandt Green Team, Lewisboro Sustainability Committee, Sustainable North Castle, Green Ossining, Pound Ridge Energy Action, and Somers Energy and Environment Committee.

Mike Brown, owner of BrightHome Energy Solutions told attendees, “We are honored to be a part of the Energize Comfort Corp, their group of select contractors that have met their stringent selection criteria and have been evaluated by local homeowners. We're really proud to have completed a significant number of the 1000 home upgrades we're celebrating today.” Brown added “We love the fact that Energize has an independent Energy Coach that can respond to homeowners’ questions about the work that we've recommended after analyzing their home.”

Kevin Brenner, owner of Healthy Home Energy & Consulting, who also spoke at the event, said “Energize NY has really helped us build our business by educating local people about the deep value of the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program and inspiring them to improve the comfort, energy efficiency and indoor air quality of their homes.” Brenner noted that “Demand has grown significantly in the areas that have an Energize program, and we have constant interest from homeowners who are motivated to schedule their home energy assessments.”

Energize NY works with homeowners to help them realize energy solutions that reduce energy waste, make their homes more comfortable and save money. Energize NY provides homeowners with useful information, innovative tools and the support they need to create a more comfortable home while using less energy.

Working closely with our Energize NY communities in northern Westchester, Energize NY has dramatically increased awareness of and the demand for energy efficiency upgrades and will begin offering these services to communities in the Hudson Valley this summer.

More information on Energize NY is available at www.energizeny.org

Energize NYtm, www.EnergizeNY.org, is a mission-driven, local development corporation that works with its member municipalities and building owners across NY State to unlock energy savings in their buildings, saving money, fuel and greenhouse gas emissions. Energize NY drives demand for clean energy upgrades to existing buildings through community-based marketing and outreach, building owner support and by providing affordable and accessible project financing.

Energize NY held a recognition party for the 1000 Energized Homeowners and the wonderful volunteers, contractors, local leaders and neighbors who have helped to make 1000 Energized Homes a reality!

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