



VIRGINIA ENERGY EFFICIENCY COUNCIL

2023 ENERGY EFFICIENCY FORUM

October 4th & 5th





Plenary Session

THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE: A HOLISTIC PATH TO WORKFORCE

Michael Flanagan, *Quick AC Quote*

Laura Hanson, *Tidewater Community College*

Phil Hull, *CHP Energy Solutions*

Crystal McDonald, *DCSEU*

Rebecca Hui, *VAEEC (moderator)*

Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative

Timeline

- 2021: Submitted a proposal to Gov. Northam for \$200M in ARPA funds to go to workforce development
 - Realized very quickly that this was a *huge* problem
 - Proposal did not get approved
 - Held summer listening sessions to assess the needs
- Winter 2021/2022: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law!
 - Initially convened small group of members to develop a proposal for the state energy office
 - Submitted two proposals in March 2022 to allocate funds toward training
- Spring/Summer 2022: Meet, Greet, and Refine
 - Continued meeting with small group
 - Held additional meetings with contractors, educators, small businesses
 - Refined our proposal to better reflect needs
- August 2022: The Inflation Reduction Act!
 - \$200M for contractor training grants
 - \$9 billion for residential energy efficiency upgrades
 - 30% tax credits for residential, commercial, and public buildings
 - And MORE!

Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative

Timeline

- Fall 2022-Spring 2023: Outreach, Research, and More Meetings
 - Workforce development was included in our 2023-25 Strategic Plan
 - Federal Funding - what do we know?
 - Engaged with small group and multiple industry partners to outline possible next steps with funding
- Spring/Summer 2023: VA Energy Workforce Gap Analysis, Grant Proposals, and Pilot Planning
 - Participated in the VA Energy Workforce Gap Analysis advisory committee and stakeholder group
 - Received planning funds from a foundation to lay the groundwork for the EEWI
 - Conducted survey of all 14 weatherization providers
 - Assessed demographic data to identify a pilot region
 - Met with the VA Department of Labor and Industry, the VA Community College System, and others to identify partners and opportunities
 - Guidelines for federal funds were released in July 2023
- Now: **It's Go Time!**

Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative



- Partner with existing entities
- Meet with community stakeholders
- LISTEN
- Connect opportunities with employees
- Provide training for existing jobs
- Fair and equitable deployment
- Additional wrap-around services

Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative

Work Force Development Pipeline Phases

RECRUIT

Target outreach in Historically Economically Disadvantaged Communities;
Partner with existing local programs to find recruits



TRAIN

Classroom and work-based learning to prepare for success in the field



PLACE

Placement in well-paying, local jobs that also benefit the community



RETAIN

Creative compensation and company culture to ensure career success and advancement





Plenary Session

THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE: A HOLISTIC PATH TO WORKFORCE

Laura Hanson

Tidewater Community College

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Community Housing Partners Training Center



Teaching with Technology



Plenary Session

THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE: A HOLISTIC PATH TO WORKFORCE

Mike Flanagan

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Preparing DC's Workforce for a Clean Energy Economy

Crystal McDonald, Director of Account Management &
Workforce Development



DC
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
UTILITY



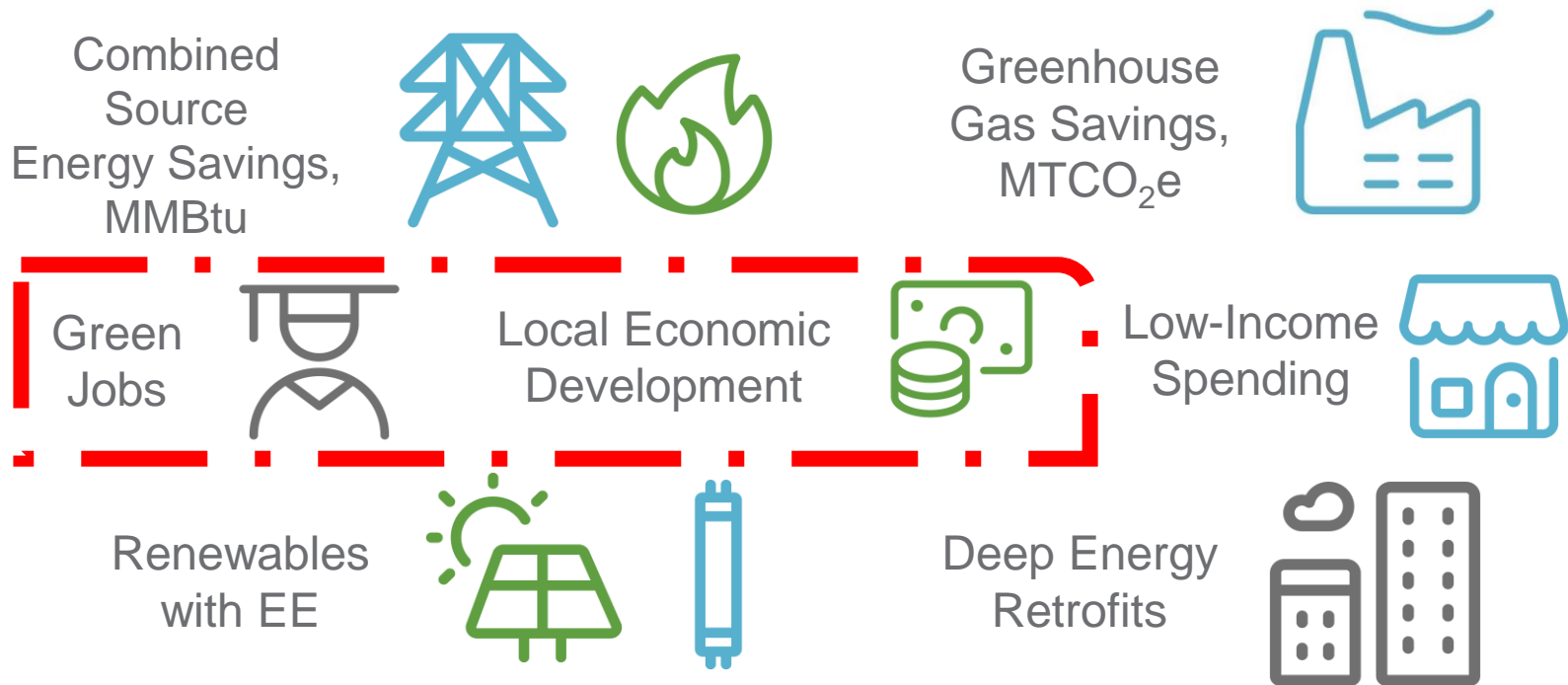
DC
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
UTILITY



About the DCSEU

The District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU) helps DC residents and businesses use less energy and save money. Since 2011, the DCSEU has delivered financial incentives, technical assistance, and information to tens of thousands of District residents and businesses, helping them to save millions of dollars on their energy costs. Our work is building a brighter economic, environmental, and energy future for the District.

DCSEU Goals, FY22-FY26



Workforce Capacity Building

Workforce Development Program (Externship)

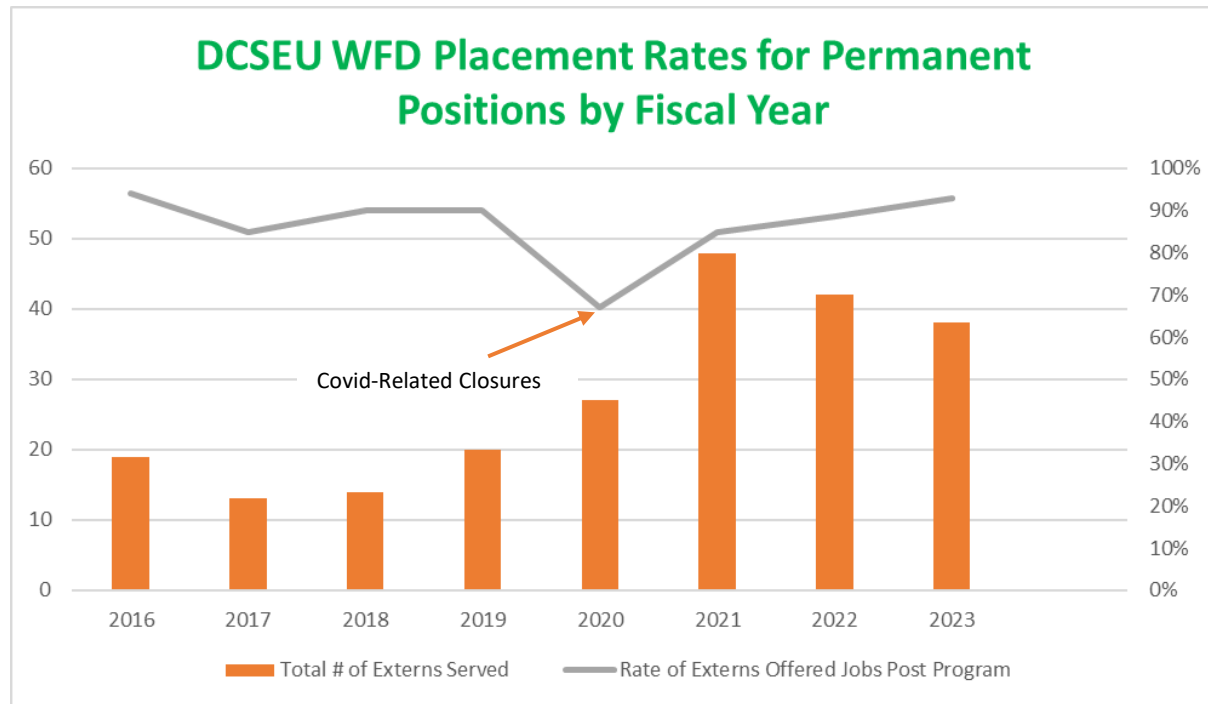
- ▶ Connect District residents over 18 years of age who are new to the workforce, between jobs, or looking for a career change with local contractors in the green economy
- ▶ Provide training and certification opportunities aimed at helping workers to obtain green careers
- ▶ Enhance economic stability by focusing on a worker's marketable skills
- ▶ Reduce unemployment and underemployment in the District

Train Green Sustainable Energy Infrastructure and Capacity Building Pipeline (SEICBP) Program

- ▶ Grow staff capacity at CBEs and CBE-eligible contractors at no cost to meet growing demand
- ▶ Help building owners train staff to build internal capacity and incorporate efficiency into normal maintenance routines
- ▶ Participants learn new skills and gain new certifications that provide access to high-paying jobs in a rapidly growing sector

Workforce Development by the Numbers

- DCSEU has served more than 220 DC residents to date (2016-2023)
- DCSEU/VEIC has employed 10+ workforce development externs
- DCSEU has experienced an 85% or better job placement rate post-graduation



Train Green: The Sustainable Energy Infrastructure Capacity Build & Pipeline Program



The SEICBP program was created in response to Section 402 of the D.C. Law 22-257. Clean Energy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018, whereby Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) is under obligation with the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DLSBD) for at least a five-year period to provide training, credentialing, and certification to District Certified Business Enterprises (CBEs) and/or CBE-eligible firms.

The DCSEU launched this program in 2020, and it is designed to assist CBEs and CBE-eligible firms in acquiring new or enhanced skills and knowledge around energy efficiency and renewable energy design, construction, inspection, and maintenance.

Year 4 of the SEICBP Program started January 2023.

Train Green SEICBP Pathways



Once introductory courses are completed, participants choose a specialization pathway that will enable them to reach an advanced level of knowledge through the Train Green program. Each Pathway contains both Basic and Advanced courses.

Energy Efficiency

This pathway includes courses that focus on growing knowledge of auditing, benchmarking, modeling, and optimizing energy use within commercial and residential buildings.

Sustainability & Health

Courses will examine Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating systems and other building standards that focus on how the built environment impacts human health and wellbeing.

Building Operations


Topics will explore best practices for whole building automatization, maintenance, operations, and green property management.

Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning (HVAC)

This pathway will specifically focus on HVAC system automation, operation, and maintenance.

Renewables + Solar

Courses will cover solar safety, installation and maintenance of battery/grid based solar systems.



TOGETHER WITH THE DCSEU,
I HAVE THE **POWER**
TO **SUCCEED** IN MY NEW CAREER,
TO GET THE **SKILLS** AND
EXPERIENCE TO BE MORE
VALUABLE TO EMPLOYERS,
TO HAVE SUPPORT FROM A
TEAM I CAN COUNT ON.

Joshua, Graduate, DCSEU Workforce Development Program



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Thank You!

DCSEU.com

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Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative

Audience Q&A

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