



2023 Annual Report

As you can see, we accomplished a lot in 2023. Continue reading to learn more.

Top Accomplishments

1**WON A COMPETITIVE GRANT TO LAUNCH OUR ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKFORCE INITIATIVE**

We were awarded funding to launch our holistic workforce development program to establish a direct pathway for energy efficiency career training and placement that will meet the needs of employers.

LAUNCHED NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Working with our committees and Board of Directors, we finalized and launched our current, three-year strategic plan that will guide the organization and our work.

2**3****\$384M FOR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES**

Since joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative in 2021, \$115M went to making existing homes more energy efficient and \$231M went to new construction and rehabilitation.

EXPANDED OUR STAFF

We welcomed Shenita Williams, our new administrative assistant, to the team.

4**5****INFLUENCED DOMINION'S DSM FINAL ORDER**

The VAEEC had a direct hand in driving stronger utility programs. The SCC took three recommendations from our testimony and legitimized the stakeholder process.

SAFEGUARDED ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICY

We created resources to show the importance of RGGI and to educate decision-makers, submitted public comments on RGGI and the USBC, participated in the Dominion DSM hearing, and were quoted in articles featuring energy efficiency.

6**7****NEW ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESOURCES**

We created three new web pages for the VAEEC website; an EECBG Toolkit and federal funding tracker; RGGI case studies, videos, fact sheets, data tables, and maps; case studies on successful EE projects and programs throughout Virginia.

STATEWIDE C-PACE PROGRAM

Working alongside Virginia Energy and the Virginia PACE Authority, we saw ten localities join the statewide C-PACE program.

8**9****VAEEC EVENTS**

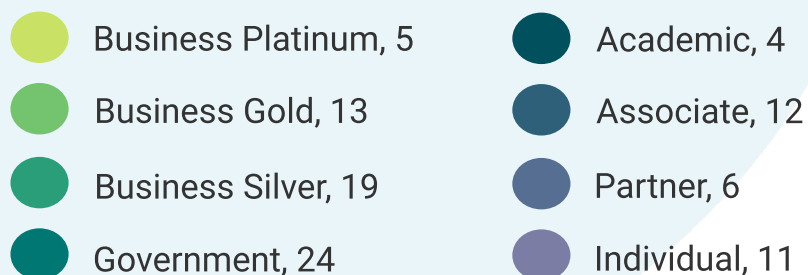
VAEEC staff hosted two webinars and biannual forums and one awards ceremony, summer workshop, and lunch-and-learn; co-hosted the Virginia Clean Energy Summit; launched our new Energizing Efficiency Campaign.

ATTENDED TEN PARTNER EVENTS

VAEEC staff attended a variety of events to diversify our network of partners and to increase our knowledge of energy efficiency topics.

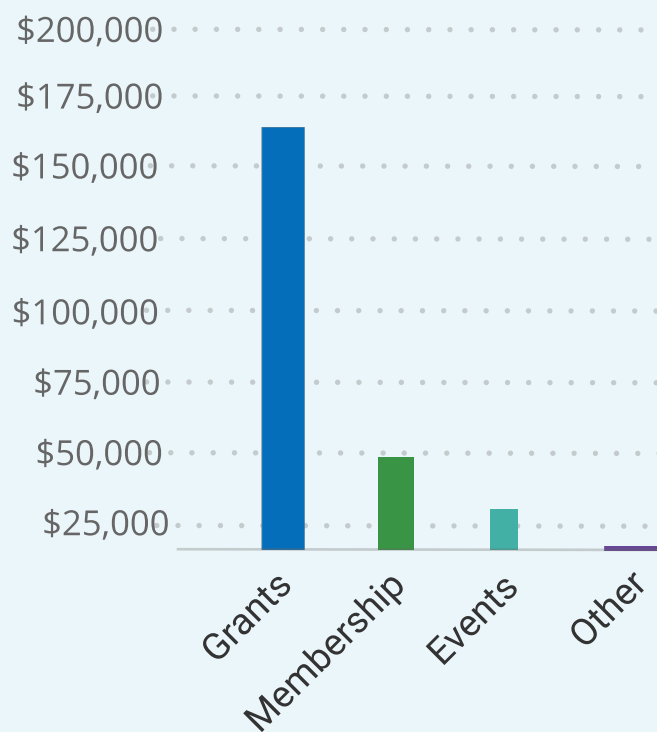
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2023 MEMBERSHIP

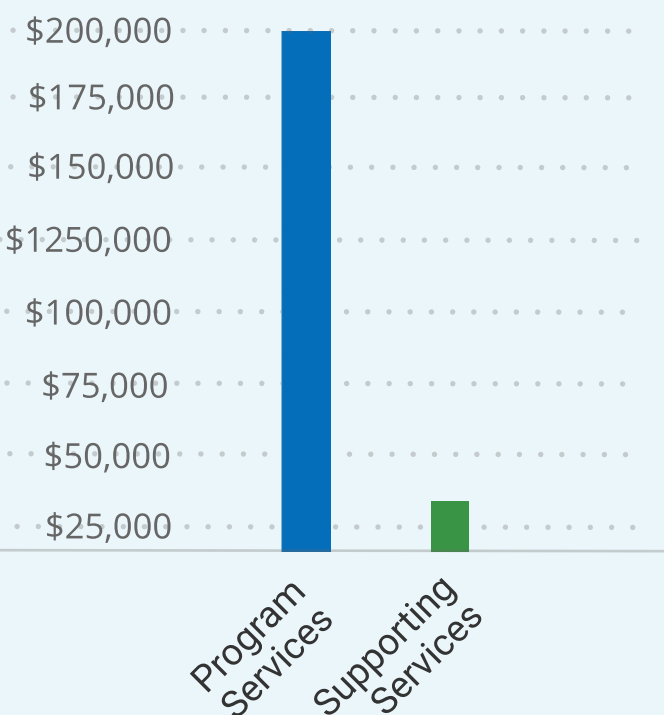


FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Revenue



Expenses



Safeguard & Enhance Energy Efficiency Funding & Initiatives to Reduce Demand & Benefit All Virginians

In order to **safeguard Virginia's participation in RGGI and the allocations for energy-efficient housing**, the VAEEC met with and created original content for decision-makers to educate them on the benefits of RGGI to Virginians.

- Educated legislators to ensure that funds from RGGI were not diverted to flooding disasters
- Participated in a RGGI press release
- Was quoted in several articles about the importance of RGGI
- Provided support to legislators that sent a letter to the treasury asking when funds are delivered to DHCD and how the funds are allocated
- Created dedicated RGGI web pages for the VAEEC website
- Submitted public comments on RGGI
- Created a map to show where the Affordable & Special Needs Housing (ASNH) allocations have been distributed
- Tracked RGGI expenditures
- Created case studies: Kindewood Redevelopment (ASNH) and Chesterfield County (Weatherization Deferral & Repair, WDR)

Throughout 2023, we **worked with Virginia's utilities to support strong programs.**

- Submitted pre-filed testimony on Dominion Energy's Demand Side Management (DSM) Hearing and participated as an expert witness.
- Reviewed and provided feedback for Dominion pilot proposals
- Participated in Dominion's grid modernization stakeholder group
- The VAEEC directly influenced three recommendations in the final order from Dominion's DSM hearing. By listening to our suggestions, the State Corporation Commission legitimized the stakeholder process and is driving stronger energy efficiency programs.
- Provided constructive feedback on the consumer awareness campaign to help shape the utility's consumer awareness campaign, which will lead to them meeting their targets in 2024 and 2025.



The VAEEC **met with decision-makers and stakeholders to encourage robust building codes and strengthen Virginia's building performance standards.**

- Submitted building code public comments
- Met with Delegates Helmer and Bulova's offices to get them to patron a 2024 building performance standards bill to update and revise the High-Performance Buildings Act (HB 2001)
- Met with VAEEC members, U.S. Green Building Council, Sustainable Design Consultants, and Moseley Architects to draft the 2024 High-Performance Buildings Act
- Engaged with local government members to get their feedback on what changes/clarifications need to be made to HB 2001

We also **met with Virginia Energy and other stakeholders to encourage strong energy efficiency programs and to ensure energy efficiency is integral to broader concepts.**

- Worked with Virginia Energy and the Virginia PACE Authority to market statewide program
- Promoted the benefits of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) functionality to modernize and decarbonize the grid
- Submitted comments for the Virginia Energy's Solar For All program to ensure energy efficiency is foundational to the program
- Participated in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds and Climate Pollution Reduction Grant discussions
- Attended the Better Buildings Summit and the Southeast Energy Summit to gain a deeper understanding of how energy efficiency is integral to broader decarbonization concepts
- Organized energy efficiency related panels for the VAEEC biannual forums and the Virginia Clean Energy Summit

To meet the growing demand for **workforce training** in the energy efficiency sector, we collaborated with decision-makers to **inform statewide and national workforce development and launched our Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative (EEWI).**

- Responded to the Department of Energy to inform their workforce development process
- Actively engaged in Virginia Energy's workforce gap analysis and worked with them to inform the process
- Continued to improve our EEWI design based on membership/partner feedback
- Conducted demographics research to identify a pilot region for the EEWI
- Continued to build out our network of experts with an emphasis on those outside of the VAEEC membership
- Identified specific career pathways for EEWI: weatherization, HVAC, energy auditors
- Launched a weatherization survey to identify needs for one of our three career pathways
- Received a grant to launch the EEWI in 2024
- Organized workforce panels at the VAEEC Energy Efficiency Forum and the Virginia Clean Energy Summit

Energy Efficiency Workforce Initiative Career Pathways



Support services provided along the way

Expand VAEEC's Partnerships & Collaborations to Diversify Engagement & Perspectives

With the goal to **diversify membership and leadership to reflect the demographics of Virginia**, the VAEEC is identifying gaps in representation, engaging with members and partners, and assessing outreach strategies to potential new members.

- Identified non-traditional allies and those with successful outreach and DEI strategies
- Reviewed the VAEEC's internal organization make-up to identify gaps in representation
- Attended the Asian American Board of Commerce supplier diversity event, the Virginia Clean Energy Summit, the Southeast Energy Summit, the Beneficial Electrification Leadership Summit, and the Virginia Governor's Housing Conference
- Invited vendors to VAEEC events
- Began initial outreach to the Small Business Administration and the Virginia Community Action Partnership

Continue Providing Resources & Guidance to Decision-Makers to Expand Energy Efficiency Implementation Across Virginia

Throughout 2023, the VAEEC has worked to **ensure decision-makers understand the foundational importance and economic opportunities of energy efficiency**.

- Held the Spring Forum, Summer Workshop, Energy Efficiency Forum, Virginia Energy Efficiency Leadership Awards, a Lunch & Learn, two webinars
- Launched the Energizing Efficiency Campaign
- Co-hosted the Virginia Clean Energy Summit
- Created original content:
 - RGGI: created and updated VAEEC web pages, created a fact sheet on the nuances of RGGI in the budget
 - Federal Funding: created and updated the Federal Funding web page and tracking spreadsheet; created and marketed the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Toolkit
 - Technology: created and updated the Technology web page and curated resources to share on the page; drafted an Alexandria case study; drafted resources for heat pump water heaters, AML FAQs, and appliances that qualify for federal rebates
 - Other: created an energy efficiency 101 fact sheet on how energy efficiency can help achieve the goals in the Virginia Energy Plan; drafted a white paper to educate partners on the National Standard Practice Manual (NSPM); drafted a fact sheet on 2024 legislative concepts
 - Energizing Efficiency Campaign: launched campaign; created and marketed case studies for each submission
- Engage with decision-makers:
 - Submitted building code and RGGI comments
 - Submitted testimony for Dominion Energy's DSM Hearing
 - Responded to legislators' RGGI data requests



STAFF

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Executive Director

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Outreach Director

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Office Manager

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Administrative Coordinator

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Vice Chair

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Dominion Due Diligence Group
Treasurer

ELIZABETH BEARDSLEY
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Secretary

TIM BERNADOWSKI
Siemens Industry

KC BLEILE
Viridiant

BRYAN BURRIS
project:HOMES

MCKENNA DUNBAR
Sierra Club Virginia Chapter

BRYNA DUNN
Moseley Architects

BILL EGER
City of Alexandria

MICHAEL HUBBARD
Dominion Energy

MEGAN PARTRIDGE
Franklin Energy

CARRIE WEBSTER
Henrico County



CONNECT WITH US

Join an advisory committee. We have four volunteer committees that dedicate time to our work and mission.

- EDUCATION & EVENTS
- MEMBERSHIP
- POLICY & PROGRAMS
- TECHNOLOGY



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