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**Partners for Climate Action Announces 20 Local Awards for the Building Decarbonization Grants Program**

CHATHAM, NY:Partners for Climate Action (PCA), a local nonprofit, has announced 20 new grant awards from their new Building Decarbonization Grant program (BDG). The funding, totalling $650,000, will assist municipalities and local nonprofits in the Hudson Valley that are reducing the carbon footprint of their buildings.

PCA is happy to report that 67 percent of the funding will be directed to applicants based in NY State Designated Disadvantaged Communities. PCA focuses its work, supporting ecological health and climate action, in the Hudson River bioregion. Fittingly, the grantees are based in the 6 counties of Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster, Columbia, Greene, and Rensselaer.

Fourteen of the grantees will be using funds for implementation projects, with a variety of interventions including solar, heat pumps, ground source geothermal, insulation and air sealing, and efficient windows and doors. Two applicants received the maximum $100,000 award offered by PCA. Hudson River Housing will use their grant to install rooftop solar on a green retrofit project that will serve as housing for homeless families. And the YMCA of Kingston & Ulster County will install insulation, heat pumps, and more efficient windows and doors in their gym, which will make the facility more usable in the hot summer months.

PCA’s Selection Committee focused on a number of criteria in their reviews, including the estimated amount of lowered greenhouse gas emissions, measured in metric tons of CO2 equivalent, a standard measure in the work to reduce the pollution that is causing global warming. Completion of the full scope of the PCA-funded projects will result in the estimated reduction of over 750 metric tons of CO2e.

Smaller grants of $5000 each will be going to Germantown, the Village of Catskill, Claverack, and the City of Poughkeepsie. These local governments will perform energy studies on municipal buildings in order to understand which interventions they should plan to undertake—a science-based starting point for building decarbonization. Two grants of $12,000 and $15,000 will go towards design, engineering, and future grant writing needs for the Hyde Park Library and Philmont’s multi-use Village Hall.

The Hudson Valley has some of the oldest building stock in the country, and the heating and cooling of buildings is the number one contributor of greenhouse gasses in NY State. Therefore, transitioning to renewable energy sources is crucial. Grantees can pair the funds from PCA with other sources such as the federal Inflation Reduction Act and rebates and incentives from their utility companies.

“We were amazed by the quality of applications and would have funded more, had we more dollars,” explained Paige Ruane, who co-directs the BDG program. “PCA fundraises from private donors and foundations, and then regrants to deserving organizations. If anyone out there wants to [donate](https://www.climateactionhv.org/become-a-partner), please do! There is an incredible need in the Hudson Valley to make this transformational decarbonization happen. We have the leadership here that wants to do it. Our applicants are taking full advantage of state and federal funding through the Inflation Reduction Act, but they just need more to close the gap.”

PCA is also supporting grantees with technical assistance, informative guest speakers, and inspiring field trips to other building decarbonization projects in the Hudson Valley. Ruane adds, “We've also invited semi-finalists, whom we were not able to fund, to join this cohort as well. We understand the challenges of this work and want to do whatever we can to support their efforts.”

Grant recipients represent a variety of tax-exempt entities: municipalities, schools, faith-based organizations, museums, libraries, agricultural organizations, and community organizations.

Full List of Grantees:

* Hudson River Housing, Poughkeepsie - $100,000 for rooftop solar as part of a larger green retrofit of homeless housing
* YMCA of Kingston and Ulster County - $100,000 for heat pumps, insulation, and air sealing for the main gym to reduce fossil fuel reliance
* Marbletown Community Center - $78,250 for insulation & geothermal
* Hawthorne Valley Association, Ghent - $63,000 towards campus-wide plan to switch from oil to heat pumps, replace windows, increase insulation
* Jewish Congregation of New Paltz - $56,937 to remove an oil furnace and install heat pumps, as well as increase efficiency with insulation
* Hudson River Maritime Museum, Kingston - $45,626 to replace natural gas heat with heat pumps in the main building & install rooftop solar panels on the Wooden Boat School
* Vassar Temple, Poughkeepsie - $36,026 for energy conservation measures and heat pumps
* Mountain Top Arboretum, Tannersville - $27,800 to install heat pumps and remove fossil fuel infrastructure.
* Hudson Valley Research Lab, Highland - $25,000 for solar on agricultural lab's roof, to complete an envelope/HVAC renovation project
* Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills, Kingston - $25,000 for air sealing, insulation, new doors to complement heat pumps
* Putnam Valley Library - $20,922 for insulation & heat pumps to replace an old furnace
* Old Dutch Church of Kingston - $20,000 for energy study and energy efficiency projects
* Kiwanis Ice Arena, Saugerties - $4,000 for storytelling/outreach to promote its innovative, next generation refrigerants project
* Oakwood Community Center, Troy - $10,000 for electrical upgrades in preparation for heat pumps
* Village of Philmont - $15,000 to underwrite a design/engineering plan for a multi-use village hall
* Hyde Park Library - $12,000 for design/engineering & grant writing for a historic library's HVAC system
* Village of Catskill - $5,000 to underwrite an energy study of village hall/police department
* City of Poughkeepsie - $5,000 to underwrite an energy study of city hall
* Town of Claverack - $5,000 to underwrite an energy study of a highway garage
* Town of Germantown - $5,000 to underwrite an energy study of a municipal building

Interested parties are encouraged to visit [www.climateactionhv.org/decarb-grant](http://www.climateactionhv.org/decarb-grant) for more details.