

COACH ENERGY BURDEN: SOLUTIONS & STRATEGIES

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ENERGYUPGRADETODAY.COM



OVERVIEW

ENERGY EQUITY: THE NEED

FUNDING

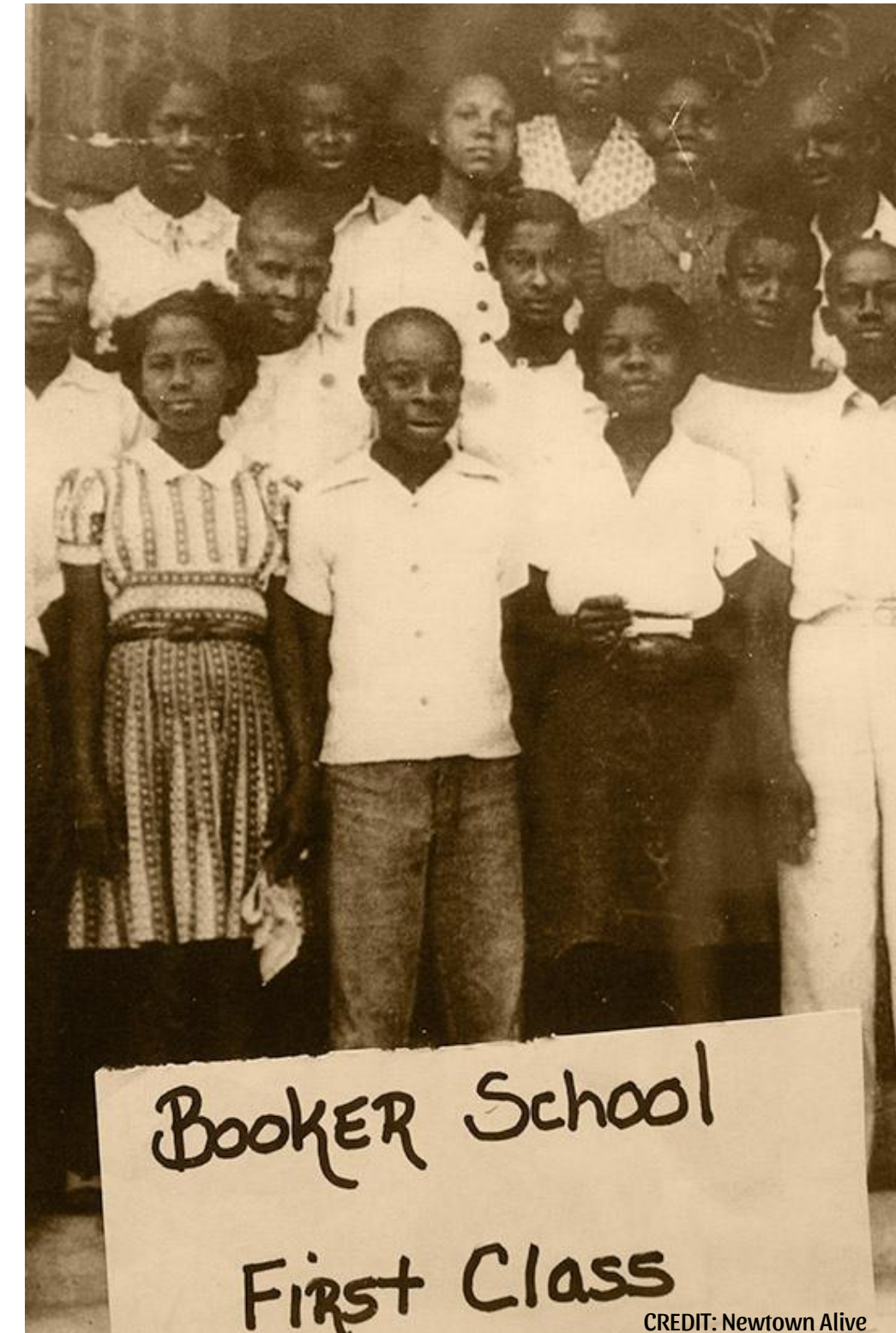
SARASOTA COUNTY PROGRAMS

LEVELS OF INTERVENTION

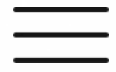


ENERGY EQUITY: THE NEED

- **Lack of funding and support** for energy efficiency programs in our community
- **Equity issues** in Sarasota County
- Existing conservation programs were geared towards **middle-income** homeowners
- **Utility rate and cost of living increases**

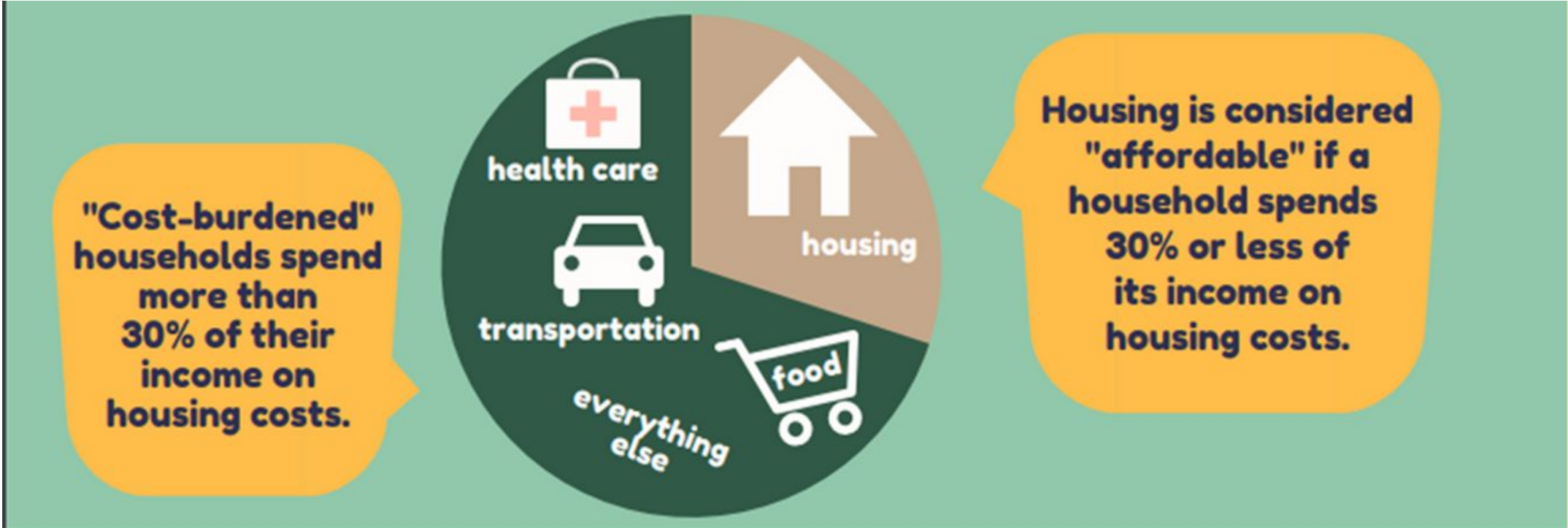


HOUSING AFFORDABILITY



- Studies show that more than **58,000 low-income families** in Sarasota County are "cost burdened."

- **48% renters**

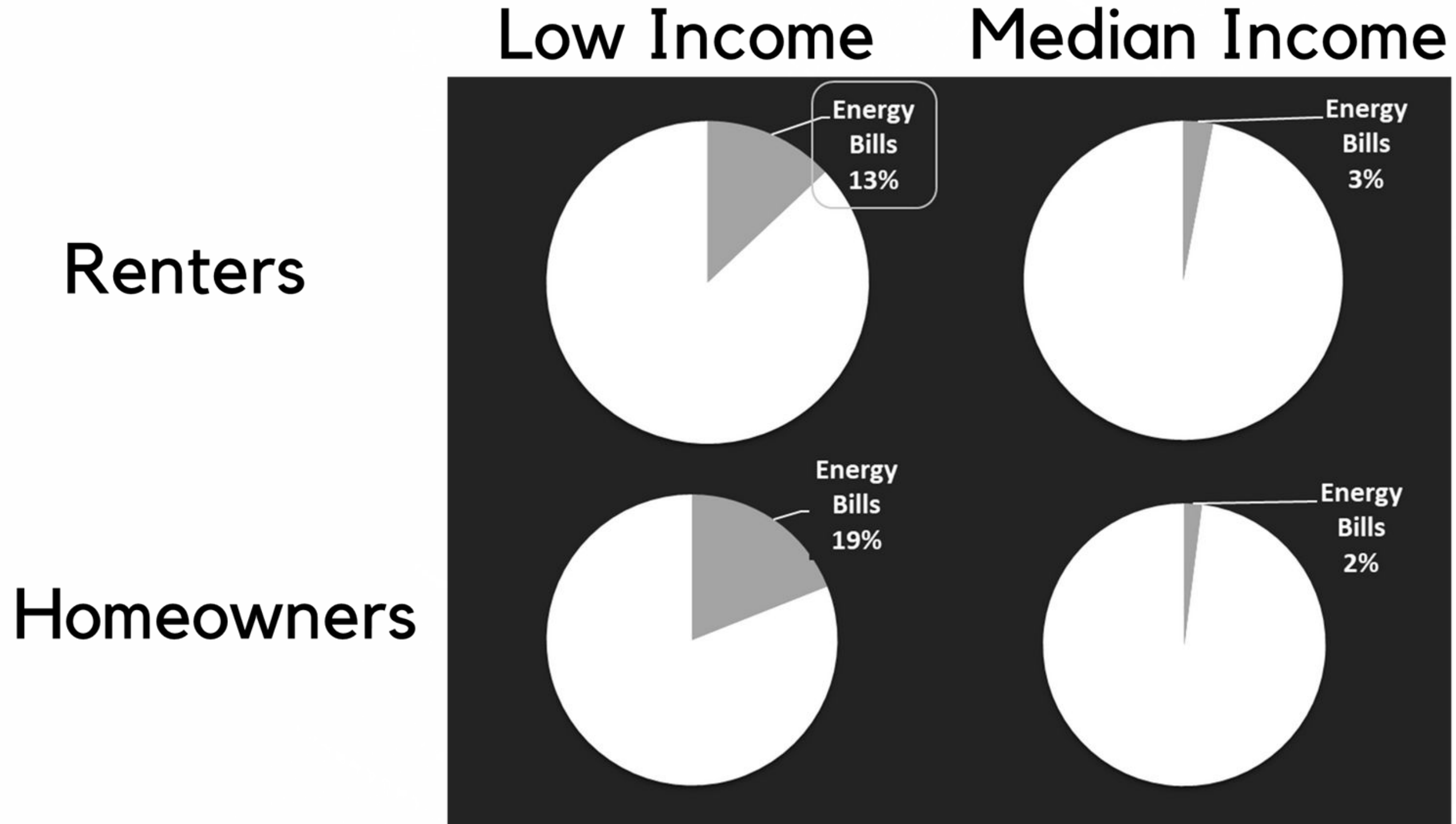


Number of cost-burdened households in Sarasota County⁽¹⁾



Prepared by: Sarasota County Planning and Development Services
Source: [U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates](#)

SARASOTA COUNTY'S NEED



Source: [DOE LEAP data](#)



ENERGY INEQUITY

“Older rental properties sometimes lack efficient appliances or basic insulation because of what’s known as the “split incentive” problem:

- Landlords have no incentive to make upgrades because they aren’t the ones paying the utility bills.
- Renters may not be in the home long enough to recoup the investments, which they probably can’t afford anyway.”





CREDIT: GeraIt, Pixabay

FUNDING

Federal, State and Local

- Current:
 - Department of Energy – Energy and water efficiency devices for low-income residents
 - FDACS Low Income Residential Energy Efficiency- Energy Efficiency appliances and HVAC systems for affordable housing providers
 - Barancik Foundation - Funding for energy program specialist position, SHA maintenance position, insulation, devices
- New Potential Funding
 - Department of Energy Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant
 - EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant



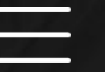
ENERGY UPGRADE PROGRAM



- Started in 2012 with DOE grant
- Refocused to low-income groups in 2016
- Energy Efficiency workshops (Spanish/ English)
- DIY Kits distributed
- Library energy & water audit kits
- Educational materials created (Spanish /English/Haitian Creole/Russian/Portuguese)
- Partners: Sarasota Housing Authority, Salvation Army, United Way, Children's First, Habitat for

ENERGY UPGRADE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

- 2018 Started Energy Coach Volunteer Program
- 5 class training series covering:
 - Energy & Water conservation techniques
 - Sarasota County's 'Energy Upgrade' workshop
 - Health impacts
 - Basics of building systems
 - Resources for financial assistance
 - Energy equity
 - Low and no-cost Energy Upgrade strategies



VOLUNTEER ROLES

In-home installations
and evaluations



Advise clients on energy improvements on-site

- Evaluate home energy use
- Install in-home energy improvements



VOLUNTEER ROLES

Phase 1

- Sarasota Housing Authority

Phase 2

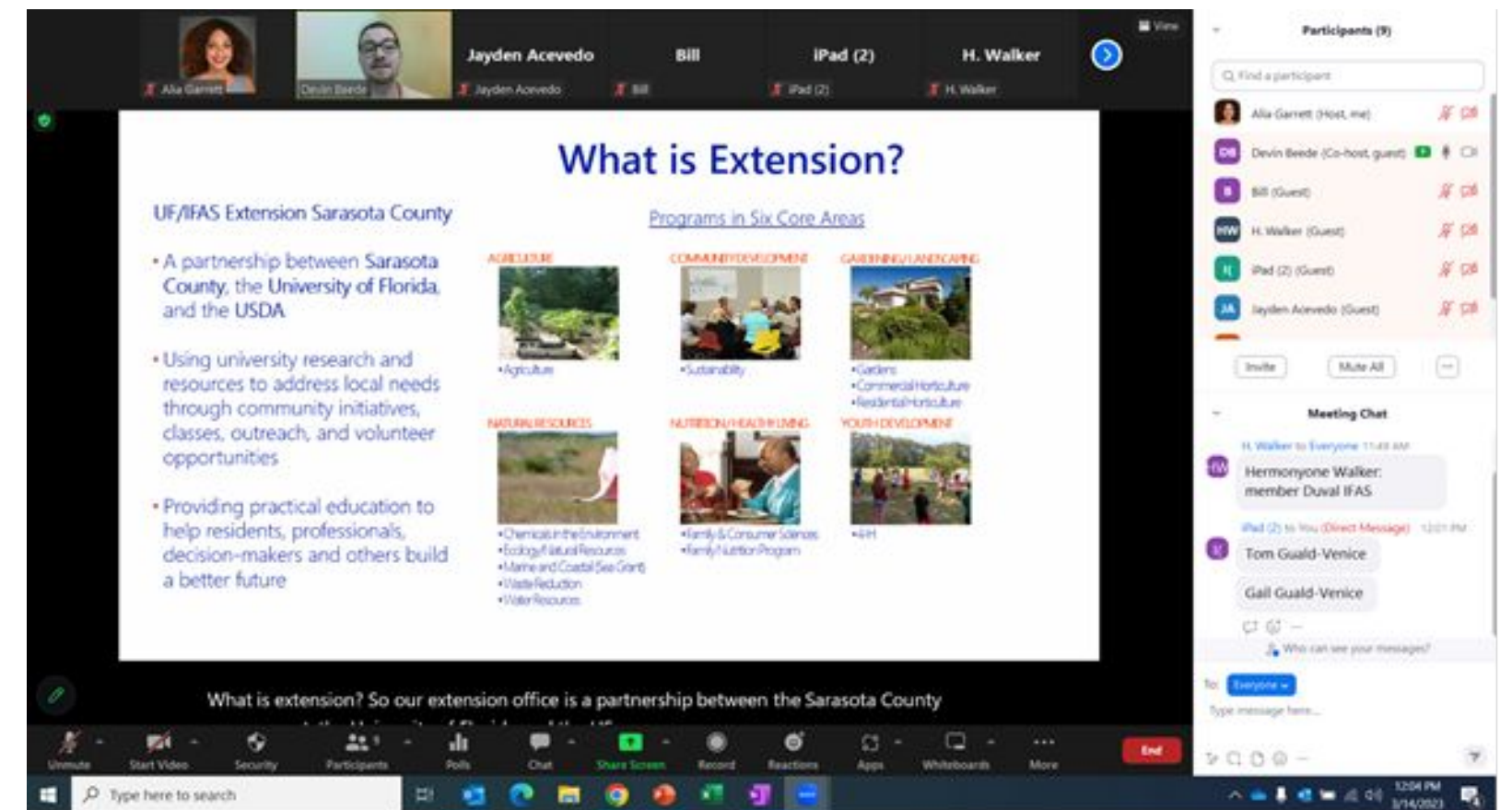
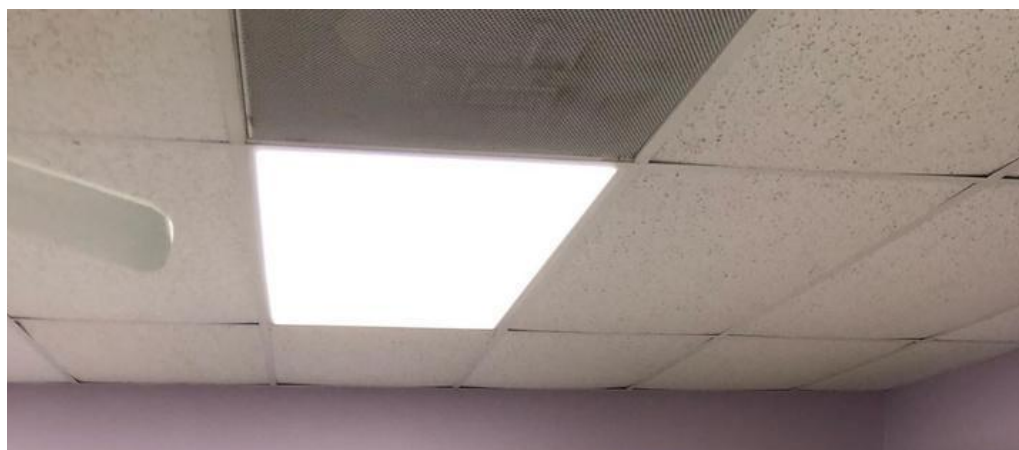
- CBO referrals to other low-income homes



VOLUNTEER ROLES

Provide Energy Upgrade Education
+ DIY kits

Educating on energy improvements and behavioral
change in a workshop setting





VOLUNTEER ROLES

Offer 1:1 Consultations + DIY Kits

Advising clients on energy improvement during 1:1 consultations at 'help desk' in non-profit partner locations & distributing efficiency devices



2022 METRICS

\$22,000	Energy bill saved
158,000	kWh saved
350,000	Gallons of water saved



ENERGY & WATER SAVING FACTSHEET

ENERGY SAVINGS



Sarasota County households spend an average of \$1,200 on energy annually.

TURN IT OFF!

- Turn off lights, fans, and electronics when leaving the room. It adds up.
- Consider air drying your clothes.

BUY SMART, USE SMART

- When replacing appliances and electronics, look for the ENERGY STAR® rating.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees F for greater energy savings.

Pro Tip: Replacing five lightbulbs with longer-lasting, higher-efficiency LED bulbs can save up to \$75 per year.

SEAL IT UP

- Sealing leaks and gaps throughout your home with caulk, tape, or other insulation can save up to \$180 a year.
- Close exterior doors.
- Check that your refrigerator has a tight seal.

HEATING/COOLING

- 49% of home energy use goes to air conditioning and heating.
- Set your thermostat to 78-82 degrees F for summer and 65-68 degrees F for winter.
- Maintaining air conditioner filters regularly can lower your energy consumption by 5-15%.
- Close window coverings in the summer to block out heat.

BEWARE VAMPIRE LOADS

- When replacing appliances and electronics, look for the ENERGY STAR® rating.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees F for energy savings.



WATER SAVINGS



Sarasota County residents spend an average of \$850 on their water annually.

TAKE SHORTER SHOWERS

- Reducing your daily, 10-minute shower to just 5 minutes can save 7,300 gallons of water yearly.
- Use a low-flow showerhead for additional annual savings of 3,650 gallons!

FIX LEAKY TOILETS

- Leaky toilets can waste up to 200 gallons a day.
- Is your toilet running? Put a dye tablet or food coloring in your tank and wait 30 minutes. If you see color in the bowl, you have a leak.

Pro Tip: Replacing your toilet flapper is an easy fix for most leaks.

WAIT TO WASH DISHES

- Let your dishes soak in the sink or a dish tub to make cleaning easy and save 12,775 gallons annually.
- Using a dishwasher? Try running it every other day to save about 1,900 gallons a year.

WATCH THE WEATHER, WAIT TO WATER

- Follow Sarasota County's irrigation restrictions and water your landscape only once per week, providing ½-¾ inch of water.
- Every week you do not irrigate your landscape will save you more than 300 gallons per 1,000 square feet.
- Skip weeks where there is a ½ inch or more of rain and during the cool weather months of January and February.

DON'T SINK YOUR MONEY

- Shut off the tap when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Every minute your tap runs, you could be wasting up to 2.5 gallons of water.
- A faucet aerator can cut your use in half.



LEARN MORE

UF/IFAS EXTENSION SARASOTA COUNTY

ATTEND OUR CLASSES
tiny.cc/ufsaraext_events

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
energyupgradetoday.com

SCHEDULE A FREE 1:1 CONSULTATION
Call 941-861-9829

REGISTER FOR SELF-PACED CLASSES
tiny.cc/ufsaraext_selfpace

GET YOUR FREE ENERGY AND WATER CONSERVATION KIT

Kits include LED light bulbs, a smart power strip, faucet aerators, low-flow showerheads, dye tablets, and more!
Customize your kit here: tiny.cc/ufsaraext_conservekit
Contact us: call 941-861-9829 or email SustainableSarasota@scgov.net

UTILITY BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

2-1-1 Suncoast
211

Get in touch with a multilingual specialist who can direct you to local organizations that provide financial assistance.

Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

941-556-0234

Federally funded program that helps low-income families pay home energy bills.

FPL Care to Share

800-226-3545

Receive up to \$500 total over 12 months to pay FPL bill.

FPL Budget Billing

800-226-3545

Pay the same amount every month.

Salvation Army

941-556-0234

Receive water service payment assistance, plus help with mortgage, rent, gas, and electric utilities.

Sarasota County Government

utilitybill@scgov.net

Get help paying overdue bills with a 6-month payment plan (while County under State of Emergency)

Jewish Family and Children's Services - Suncoast

941-366-2224

Utility deposit assistance for veterans.

Caritas Ministry

941-366-5620

Emergency assistance for those with acute financial needs.

Area Agency on Aging

(60 or older)

866-413-5337

Resurrection House

941-365-3759

Senior Friendship Center

941-955-2122

OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Weatherization Assistance Program

941-827-8227

Free, low-income qualified energy upgrades up to \$5,000.

Office of Housing and Community Development Rehabilitation Program

941-951-3640

Up to \$60,000 of 0% interest loans for owner-occupied rehabilitation program.

United Way

941-366-2686

Get connected to financial assistance through a highly trained specialist.

Sarasota County Energy Upgrade

941-861-5000

sustainable Sarasota@scgov.net

Call for energy-saving help through in-home evaluations, energy audits, DIY kits, and classes!

The Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center

941-365-4545

Home to 18-plus nonprofit health and human services agencies that help low-income individuals and families.

Venice Trinity Presbyterian

941-493-0018

Venice Goodwill

941-441-0241

St. Vincent de Paul

941-444-9343

St. Jude's Catholic Church

941-955-3934

Lutheran Services

941-358-6330

UF/IFAS EXTENSION SARASOTA COUNTY

6700 Clark Road, Sarasota 34241 | 941-861-5000 | sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu | sarasota@ifas.ufl.edu

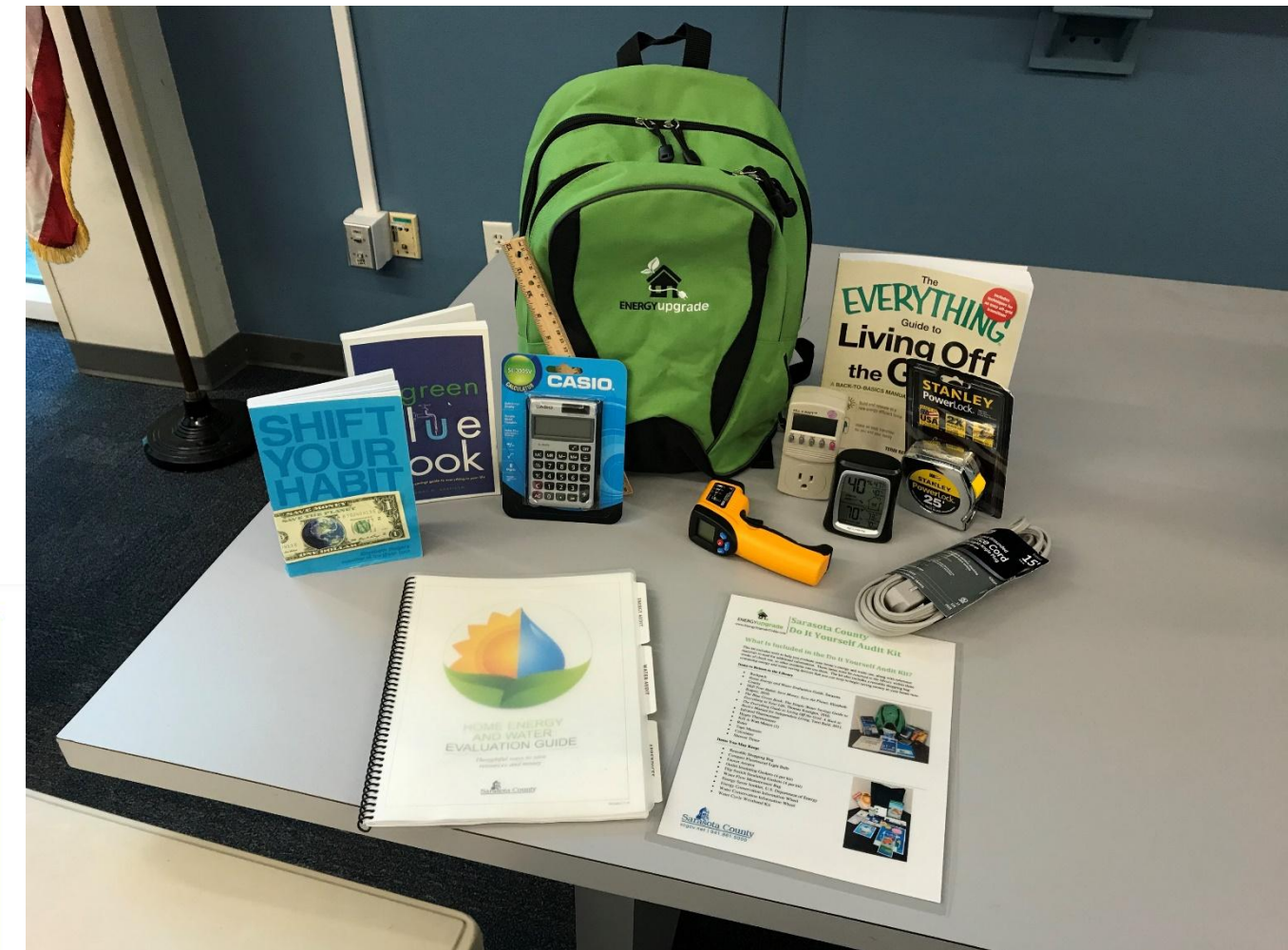
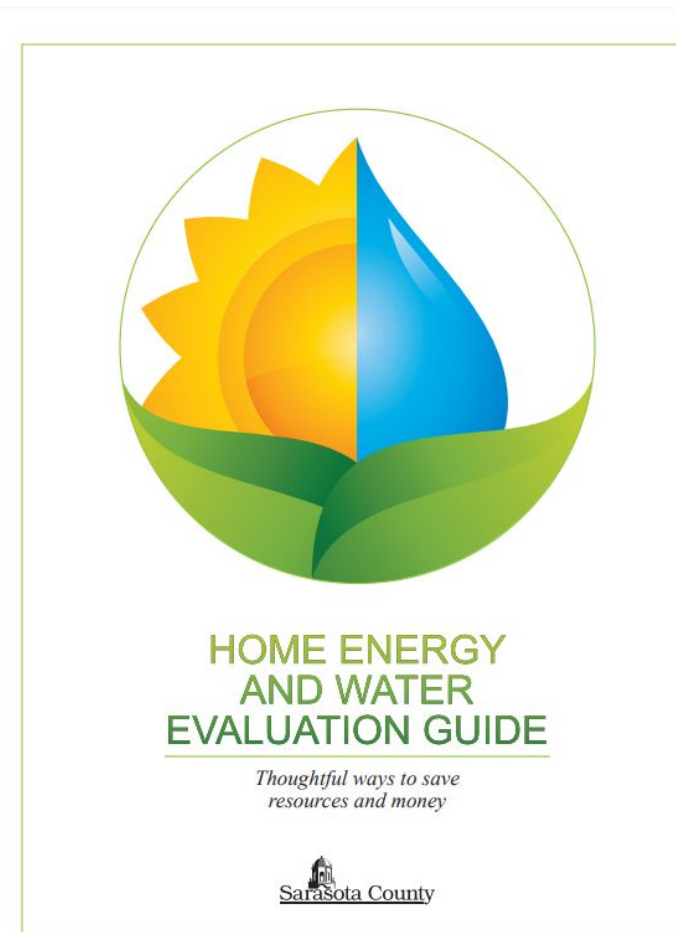


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DO-IT-YOURSELF ENERGY & WATER AUDIT BACKPACK

- A simple and economical way for residents to evaluate their home energy and water use and learn ways that they can save resources and money.
- Available at all Sarasota County Public Libraries
- Contains:
 - A step-by-step [Home Energy and Water Evaluation Guide](#)
 - Infrared Thermometer
 - Hygro Thermometer
 - Kill A Watt Meters (3)
 - Ruler
 - Tape Measure
 - Calculator
 - Shower Timer
 - Books related to efficiency
- [Watch tutorial](#)
- Reserve through the [library catalogue](#)



REDUCING ENERGY



BUDRENS- FDACS GRANT

Overview:

- Low-Income Residential Energy Efficiency Grant
- Received in March 2021 by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Office of Energy
- Appliance upgrades for low-income and affordable housing providers
- \$100,000 in funding
- Saves residents money on utility bills & meets our sustainability goals by conserving resources





REDUCING ENERGY

BUDRENS- FDACS GRANT



Milestones:

- Survey and needs assessment to all low-income housing providers
- Applications from housing providers and selection
- Purchase and installation of energy efficient appliances and HVAC systems
- Rebate requests and awards
- Outreach and Education – throughout the entire 2 years



REDUCING ENERGY BUDRENS- FDACS GRANT

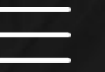
Results:

- Three housing providers were received funding
 - Community Assisted & Supported Living (CASL)
 - Victoria Point
 - University Club
- 39 total units
 - Refrigerators – 20
 - HVAC systems – 19



PARTNERS FOR GREEN PLACES

- Started in 2019 with Partners for Places grant (\$350,000)
- Grew to >\$1 million
- Collaboration between Sarasota County, City of Sarasota, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Charles and Margery Barancik Foundation, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, and Selby Foundation
- Phase 2 funded by Foundation partners and merged into Southface's GoodUse program





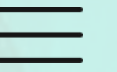
P4GP HIGHLIGHTS

- 16 nonprofits
 - Energy, water and solar audits of facilities
 - Implementation projects
- 4 solar PV projects ~167 kW total expected to produce 250,000 kWh annually
- A 5th solar project, ~30 kW, to be installed soon (funded outside of P4GP)
- Roadmaps encompass up to 30% in energy savings and annual savings up to 500,000 kWh

INCORPORATING ENERGY CONTENT INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMING

- Community Outreach
 - Display information at tabling events around your community.
- Efficiency Education
 - Provide household energy efficiency/utility bill saving classes for residents.
- Efficiency Education with Device Distribution
 - Low-income residents may want to make efficiency improvements but cannot afford the technologies to do so.
- Efficiency Resource Kits
 - Create a check-out Home Energy Efficiency Backpack or Do-It-Yourself Audit kit program, dispersed through your local library or a local nonprofit or government partner.

INCORPORATING ENERGY CONTENT INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMING



- Efficiency Consultations
 - Set up help desks or phone/webinar appointments where staff or volunteers can answer questions about energy and water efficiency for interested residents.
- In-Home Energy Tune Up/Audit Programs
 - Volunteers can be trained to serve as “Energy Coaches” that serve low-income households through some of the strategies outlined above as well as more in-depth in-home audit and retrofit activities.
- Nonprofit and Business Programs
 - Nonprofits and businesses can benefit from similar types of services supporting efficiency in their operations as those outlined for residents above: tabling/outreach, educational workshops, and technical assistance.

ENERGY EQUITY RESOURCES



- Sarasota County Blogs:
 - [Saving Energy for Those Who Need it Most](#)
 - [First Energy Sweeps Successful](#)
 - [Energy Savings Program to Help Low-Income Residents](#)
- Southern Alliance for Clean Energy: [Energy Justice program](#)
- US Department of Energy:
 - [Equity in Energy Initiative](#)
 - [Clean Energy in Low-Income Communities](#)
 - [Low Income Energy Affordability Data \(LEAD\) Tool](#)
- US Energy Information Administration: [Energy Insecurity Data](#)
- Clean Energy States Alliance: [Low and Moderate Income Clean Energy Program](#)

ENERGY EQUITY RESOURCES



EDIS Series- Energy Equity Programming For Extension

- Options for Incorporating Energy Efficiency into Extension Programs: A Menu of Possibilities for Extension Energy Programming in Your Community
- Community-Based Home Energy Tune-Up/Audit Programs: A Step-by-Step Guide to Creating and Implementing Energy Equity Programs in Your Community
- Using Community-Based Social Marketing to Improve Energy Equity Programs
- Developing Extension Programming to Help Low-Income Families Save Money and Energy: The Community Weatherization Coalition Model



QUESTIONS?

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