



Community Grants Program

New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) provides financial and technical support for projects that raise awareness and understanding of pollution prevention practices and lead to implementation at the local level

Residents Engaging Residents in a Building-to-Building Energy Challenge in Public Housing

Organization & Contact Information

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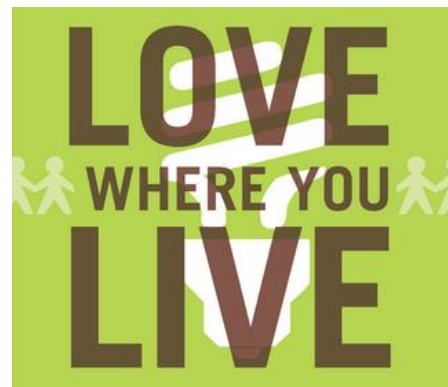


Project Description

Green City Force (GCF) breaks the cycle of poverty, preparing urban young adults to succeed in their chosen careers by engaging them in service, training, academics and work experiences related to the clean energy economy. In doing so, GCF encourages them to lead socially and environmentally responsible lives. GCF and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) partnered to help improve the training program for young NYCHA residents in ways that help NYCHA residents gain more control over their energy use, called the *Love Where You Live Challenge*. This challenge engages NYCHA residents to be more environmentally and energy conscious through a friendly competition between buildings.

The main goals of the project were:

1. Empower residents to live lower carbon lifestyles and achieve a 5-10% reduction in electricity consumption
2. Train GCF members and NYCHA residents to be more environmentally conscious
3. Conduct energy consumption measurements for residents and provide feedback from visits
4. Reduce NYCHA's carbon footprint while empowering NYCHA residents to make a positive change



Project Results

- 12 Green City members were trained in energy reduction goals of *Love Where You Live Challenge*
- NYCHA identified the John Adams Houses in the Bronx as the site for this project. The site is made up of 7 buildings consisting of 925 apartments and housing an estimated 2,400 people.
- Baseline energy metrics were calculated for the 7 Houses by NYCHA staff for 2012.
- Marketing materials were developed and disseminated to residents, including over 750 flyers to announce the challenge visits to apartments, compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) information sheets, and tip sheets for energy reduction based on [NYCHA's Power In Your Hands guide](#).

76% of the 702 residents that participated were able to reduce energy by at least 70%. All participants reported they would take at least one action to reduce energy and/or water consumption.

