



Network Agreement

ReEnergize Pgh

Purpose

ReEnergize Pgh aims to reduce residential energy waste throughout Allegheny County, help create jobs, and improve air quality.

Vision

To develop a national model for sustainable community development by dramatically increasing the scale of residential energy upgrades to support a vibrant industry that works to improve quality of life throughout Allegheny County.

Overarching Strategy

Establish *ReEnergize Pgh* as a platform to increase awareness and access to existing home performance and energy upgrade resources and services to establish common standards, measures for success, and more efficient service deliveries.

Goals & Priorities

1. **Increase public health** through improved local air quality (indoor and outdoor)
2. **Advance sustainable economic development** by helping create employment opportunities
3. **Reduce energy costs for homeowners** while freeing resources for other investments
4. **Reduce carbon emissions** which helps mitigate the effects of global climate change

Approach

- **Collaborate to scale impact.** *The ReEnergize Pgh* Coalition is an ever expanding, open membership collaboration consisting of over 30 organizations including local utilities, governmental agencies, non-profit service providers, small businesses, education and training programs, foundations, and existing public private collaborations.
- **Align resources** by utilizing existing programs as well as enabling new incentives & mechanisms for residents and homeowners to save money and energy.
- **Increase market demand** through targeted outreach and education. *ReEnergize Pgh* will engage dozens of communities in an effort to drive motivated consumers towards access points for energy efficiency services. Building off of the strength of community networks, GTECH will be engaging community ambassadors from over 15 communities to promote the program and support potential participants.
- **Coordinate with industry partners** to ensure quality implementation of services and help create inclusive standards for employment, linked to existing training and certification programs.

By aligning resources, growing the market for demand, and ensuring an integrated method of service delivery, Allegheny County stands to lead the nation in a self initiated regional strategy to create jobs while improving public health conditions. *ReEnergize Pgh* is linked to the Pittsburgh Climate Initiative and designed to leverage the Breathe Project's objectives.



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Collaborative Structure

Spun out of the Coordinated Weatherization Campaign in 2011, *ReEnergize Pgh* (formerly known as the Metro ScaleUp initiative) is ramping up to scale outreach to dozens of communities throughout Allegheny County starting in the autumn of 2012.

The ReEnergize Pgh Coalition is composed of the spectrum of the residential energy efficiency sector including public agencies, utilities, small businesses, non-profits, foundations, community organizations, banks, and other collaborative networks/initiatives.

- *Coalition Members* at large constitute participants in Coalition meetings whom agree to common principles and provide input, connectivity, and resources for common vision, goals and strategy. Attendance at Coalition or Committee meetings constitutes membership.
- *Coalition Committee's* provide direction, guidance, and resources to advance common goals and priorities. Committees as of September 2012 are:
 - Outreach and Education
 - Industry Coordination/Market Demand
 - Policy
 - Financing/Evaluation
 - *Coordinating* (Responsible for coalition coordination including communications, planning, and governance)
- *Coalition Partners* are other networks, initiatives, and/or projects that are directly related to and/or linked to common goals and priorities (Examples include: The Pittsburgh Climate Initiative, The Breathe Project, etc.). *ReEnergize Pgh* is designed to link to and leverage existing efforts focusing on residential energy reduction.

Guiding Principles:

These basic principles are to serve as the philosophical bedrock of how the Coalition operates and fulfills the strategy and approach.

1. Collaboration should enable more home investments to reduce energy use and help increase the efficiency and affordability of such investments.
2. Community participation should be maximized at all levels – especially as it pertains to increasing demand for home performance/energy upgrade services.
3. The Coalition embraces a “big tent” approach in so much as that multiple levels of technical expertise are needed to enable lasting impact.
4. *ReEnergize Pgh* processes and decision making needs to be transparent and inclusive.
5. All partners are to uphold the highest standard of accountability and professionalism.

Decision Making Process

In the event that a decision needs to be made, the Coalition will employ a modified consensus system. The following four steps outline the decision making process:

Step 1: Attempt to reach full consensus, if full consensus cannot be reached proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Perform sensitivity analysis testing to determine where the difference in opinions within Core

Partners is coming from. The tests are:

- Semantics Test – test performed to determine if there is a misunderstanding revolving language being used in a discussion. Members should determine if they can reach an agreement through more clearly defining their working language.
- Substance Test – test performed to determine if there is a disagreement due to the subject or content of the discussion followed by why the specific question conflicts with the shared vision and purpose of Coalition Members.
- Risk Tolerance – test performed to determine if there is a disagreement due to a differing level of risk-seeking or risk-avoidance behavior among the individual organization’s policies.
- Structural Test – test performed to determine if there is a disagreement due to differing individual organization’s limitations or obstacles that are unavoidable.

Step 3: Attempt to reach full consensus, if full consensus fails, Coalition Members are officially grid locked and proceed to Step 4.

Step 4: Majority Vote

- If 3/5 Coalition Members vote yes → Modified Consensus of Yes with the option for any dissenting partners to opt-out
- If 3/5 Coalition Members vote no → Modified Consensus of No

In modified consensus, the Members will strive to reach full agreement until they reach gridlock and then will proceed to a majority rule. In order to determine when gridlock is reached after the first full consensus vote fails, 4 sensitivity tests were administered to determine what is creating the difference in objectives among partners and halting the process. After the tests have been completed and sufficient dialogue held, a second attempt at full consensus will be made.

Gridlock will have been officially met if the second vote fails to pass. If gridlock is reached, the Partners will move to a majority vote where each organization gets one vote. A 3/5 vote will be needed to either pass or defeat the vote and conclude the decision making process. If the decision is agreed to by majority rule and not consensus, any dissenting organizations whose concerns remain can opt-out of participating in the project in an implementation capacity. Any opting-out member will still be responsible for functioning in an administrative capacity and must continue to attend Coalition meetings and only opt-out of any project specific meetings or tasks.

Adaptation of this agreement

While this Network Agreement is to serve the purpose of an ongoing memorandum of understanding between the *ReEnergize Pgh* members, the members agree to amend and revise this agreement as deemed necessary by the partnership. Once members have agreed to the Network Agreement, their membership would include the use of their logo, link to website, and organization name on materials such as press releases, websites, and marketing material. Should a member not want to share any of the above information in specific situations or material, they must establish their parameters explicitly with The Coordinating Committee.

*If organizations wish to not be listed as a member in any situation, they must explicitly establish this with The Coordinating Committee