



# REDUCING ENERGY POVERTY

COLLABORATIONS WITH THE MICHIGAN ENERGY  
WASTE REDUCTION LOW-INCOME WORKGROUP

**JANUARY 24, 2019**  
**2ND FLOOR, MICHIGAN LEAGUE**  
**8:30AM - 12:00PM**

SPONSORED BY



[poverty.umich.edu](http://poverty.umich.edu) | [povertysolutions@umich.edu](mailto:povertysolutions@umich.edu)



# REDUCING ENERGY POVERTY

## COLLABORATIONS WITH THE MICHIGAN ENERGY WASTE REDUCTION LOW-INCOME WORKGROUP

Households in poverty face an array of challenges to meet their needs for water, energy, healthy food, medical care and affordable housing. For low income residents, these challenges are oftentimes inseparable, and as such, energy policy-makers, advocacy groups, and decision-makers encounter these issues in their approach towards providing clean, renewable and efficient energy in Michigan. Today's Symposium is intended to bridge research at U-M's Urban Energy Justice Lab and Poverty Solutions Initiative, with priority issues for the stakeholder groups of the Michigan Energy Waste Reduction Low Income Workgroup.

## **ABOUT THE ENERGY WASTE REDUCTION LOW INCOME WORKGROUP**

The Michigan Public Service Commission, Energy Waste Reduction Section (EWR), established the EWR Low Income Workgroup in April of 2018. With the support and contributions of other state agencies, statewide utility providers, and diverse stakeholder groups, the EWR Low Income Workgroup (LIWG) works to address energy efficiency issues specific to low income customers and create new initiatives that reduce energy burden on Michigan's low-income communities.

The LIWG meets monthly, combining the expertise and experience of agencies, utilities, and low income and energy stakeholder groups to bridge gaps between program offerings, facilitate a more complete delivery of energy efficiency programs, and seek opportunities to better serve low income, residents of single and multifamily buildings. This group serves to guide policy discussions and decision making for low income housing needs.

The vision of the LIWG is to address low income specific issues with the long-term goal to provide all Michigan residents with efficient, affordable, safe, and healthy homes. The mission of the LIWG is to coordinate and optimize energy efficiency and clean energy offerings, to improve energy affordability and quality of life for Michigan's low-income residents, and to improve program design, accessibility, and delivery.

## AGENDA

---

**8:30 AM – 8:45 AM** GATHERING: COFFEE AND LIGHT BREAKFAST

---

**8:45 AM – 9:00 AM** WELCOME ADDRESS



Tony Reames  
*Director, Urban Energy Justice Lab,  
University of Michigan*

---

**9:00 AM – 9:15 AM** INTRODUCTION TO EWR LIWG



Brad Banks  
*Energy Efficiency Program Analyst,  
Michigan Public Service Commission*

OPENING REMARKS



Jonathan Overpeck  
*Dean, School for Environment &  
Sustainability*

---

**9:15 AM – 10:00 AM** PANEL **POVERTY, ENERGY & HOUSING SECURITY**



Moderator: Ben Stacey  
*Graduate Researcher, U-M Urban  
Energy Justice Lab and Poverty  
Solutions*



Maddy Kamalay  
*Weatherization Specialist, Michigan  
DHHS, Bureau of Community Action  
and Economic Opportunity*  
**Weatherization program barriers  
and opportunities**



Jennifer Erb-Downward  
*Senior Research Associate, U-M  
Poverty Solutions*  
**Homelessness and the trade-offs  
in sustained housing**



Jason Kupser  
*Manager, EWR Residential and  
Education / Awareness Programs,  
DTE Energy*  
**Energy efficiency programs for  
low-income single and multi-  
family homes**

---

**10:00 AM – 10:15 AM** BREAK

---

**10:15 AM – 11:00 AM** PANEL RESUMES



Scott Alan Davis  
*Portfolio Director, Solutions for  
Energy Efficient Logistics*  
**Challenges of Outreach and  
Engagement**



Kristin Seefeldt  
*Assistant Professor, School of Social  
Work and Gerald R. Ford School of  
Public Policy*  
**Barriers preventing low-income  
families from achieving the  
American Dream**

---

**11:00 AM – 11:30 AM** PANEL Q & A

---

**11:30 AM – 12:00 PM** KEYNOTE ADDRESS



H. Luke Shaefer  
*Director of Poverty Solutions and  
Associate Professor, School of  
Social Work and Gerald R. Ford  
School of Public Policy*

## **MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ENERGY WASTE REDUCTION SECTION LOW INCOME WORKGROUP PARTICIPANTS**

Walker-Miller Energy Services	Kent County Essential Needs Task Force
The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW)	Catalyst Partners
Michigan Environmental Council	SEEDS (Traverse City)
Michigan League for Public Policy	City of Grand Rapids
WEC Energy Group	Community Homeworks
Solutions for Energy Efficient Logistics (SEEL)	Consumers Energy
Michigan Community Action	DTE Energy
SEMCO Energy Gas Company	Ecoworks
U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development	Michigan Energy Efficiency for All
Michigan Energy Options	Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
Michigan Energy Efficiency Contractors Association	National Housing Trust
Cherryland Electric	Indiana Michigan Power
Salvation Army	Ecology Center
Green Home Institute	Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation
Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM)	Elevate Energy
Michigan Electric and Gas Association (MEGA)	Clearesult
	American council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE)
	Navigant
	Michigan Saves



Habitat for Humanity Michigan

Luna Energy Partners

Holland Board of Public Works

Lansing Board of Water and Light

Michigan Energy Office

Michigan Agency for Energy

Michigan Department of Health  
and Human Services BCAEO

Michigan State Housing  
Development Authority

Natural Resources Defense  
Council

Future Energy Enterprises

Levin Energy Partners

Healthy Homes Coalition

Inner City Christian Federation

Beaumont Health

Oakland University Beaumont  
School of Medicine

Green and Healthy Homes Initiative

Helping Neighbors

Sierra Club

United Way

East Michigan Environmental  
Action Council

Garfield Park Neighborhoods  
Association-Grand Rapids

New Power Tour

Integrays Group

Illume Advising

Environmental Justice Coalition

Wayne State University

Enterprise Community Partners

City of Coldwater

5 Lakes Energy

Environmental Law and Policy  
Center

Upper Peninsula Power Company

Great Lakes Environmental Law  
Center

Blue Green Alliance

Warm Training

Clean Energy Coalition

## MICHIGAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

Dickinson Iron CAA

Monroe County Opportunities

Muskegon Oceana CAA

Superior Watersheds

EightCap

Genesee County CAA

Oakland Livingston CAA

CAA South Central Michigan

Kent County CAA

Macomb CAA

Northwest Michigan CAA

Baraga Houghton Keweenaw CAA

Alger Marquette CAA

Chippewa Luce Mackinaw CAA

Gogebic Ontonagon CAA

Kalamazoo County CAA

Menominee Delta Schoolcraft CAA

Northwest Michigan CAA

Ottawa County CAA

Southwest Michigan CAA

Human Development-Caro

Saginaw County CAA

Community Action Allegan

Capital Area Community Action

Wayne Metro CAA

West Michigan CAA

Capital Area Community Services

True North

Washtenaw CAA

## FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION STATEMENT

The University of Michigan strives to create an open forum in which diverse opinions can be expressed and heard. In order to most fully protect the rights of free expression for all—speakers, performers, members of the University community, as well as those with differing views—the University reaffirms its policy that anyone unduly interfering with a scheduled performance or presentation may, after appropriate warning by University representatives, be removed from the event venue.





**Regents of the University of Michigan:** Michael J. Behm, Mark J. Bernstein, Shauna Ryder Diggs, Denise Ilitch, Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner, Ron Weiser, Katherine E. White, Mark S. Schlissel, *ex officio*.

**NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT**

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity, and Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Office for Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388, [institutional.equity@umich.edu](mailto:institutional.equity@umich.edu). For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.