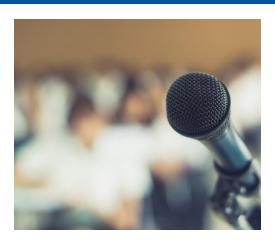
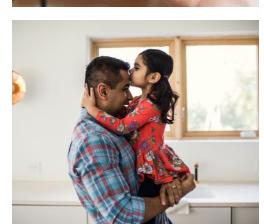
#### LOW-INCOME ENERGY POLICY BOARD

"Reducing the number of households with unsustainable energy burdens"









# Anne Armstrong & Andrew McNeally

Co-leaders

December 9, 2024







# **Meeting Reminders**







PLEASE MUTE YOURSELF WHEN NOT SPEAKING



BOARD MEMBERS, YOU MAY RAISE YOUR HAND TO SPEAK OR COMMENT IN THE CHAT



PLACE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE CHAT





### Welcome and Agenda







#### Roll Call of Members with Lived Experience & Invested Parties

Marie Touré- Board Member with Lived Experience Synia Gant-Jordan – Board Member with Lived Experience

Mike Berkowitz – Elevate Rick Bunch - 5 Lakes Energy; Michigan Municipal Association for Utility Issues (MI-MAUI)

Alexis Blizman -Ecology Center

Briana DuBose-EcoWorks Detroit Patrick Leahy -SEMCO Energy Gas Company Kasey M. Grieco -Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP) Wende Randall -Kent County Essential Needs Task Force (ENTF)

Gustavo Rotondaro – Michigan 211



### Roll Call of Policy Experts



Joy Wang- Dept. of Environment, Great Lakes, & Energy (EGLE)



Nicole Denson-Sogbaka – Dept. of Health & Human Services (DHHS)



Rachael A. Eubanks – Dept. of Treasury



Jeff Guilfoyle – Dept. of Treasury



Kelly Rose – Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)



Ninah Sasy – Dept. of Health & Human Services -Social Determinants of Health Strategy (DHHS)



Kris Schoenow – Dept. of Health & Human Services – Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity (DHHS-BCAEO)



Derrell Slaughter – National Resource Defense Council; Governor's Council on Climate Solutions (NRDC)



#### Roll Call of Staff Policy Experts

- Brad Banks Departmental Specialist, Energy Waste Reduction
- Elaina Braunschweig Analyst, Regulated Energy Division
- Jennifer Brooks Outreach Coordinator, Communications Section
- Jamie Curtis Grant Administrator, Michigan Energy Assistance Program
- Christina Forist Manager, Compliance & Investigation Section
- Karen Gould Manager, Energy Waste Reduction
- Reka Holley Voelker Manager, Communications Section
- Shatina Jones MPSC Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer
- Amy Rittenhouse Communications Coordinator
- Jake Thelen Departmental Specialist, Compliance & Investigation Section
- Mary Wilkins Departmental Specialist, Customer Assistance Division



#### Approval of Minutes – October 28, 2024

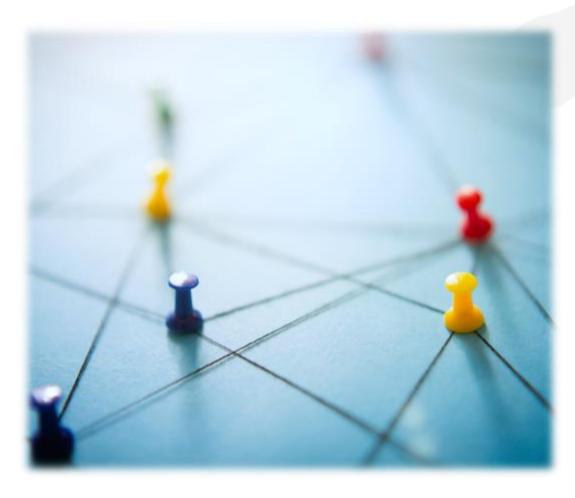
#### Please respond in the chat:

- Board member name
- Vote on meeting minutes
  - Approve
  - Do Not Approve
  - Abstain





### Low-Income Energy Policy Board Purpose



#### Purpose

→ To guide the process of assessing energy affordability and accessibility holistically, especially through linking energy waste reduction services and energy assistance programs.

#### Overarching Goal

→ Reduce the number of households with unsustainable energy burdens

#### Policy Pillars

- → Customer Centered Engagement & Coordination
- → Affordability & Customer Protections
- → Low-Income Energy Waste Reduction



#### **Board Values**



We value affordability and inclusion in policy actions that create measurable impact.

We achieve positive outcomes that impact home energy security, health, housing, and a healthy climate.

We build solutions through collaboration and diversity of representation, input, experience, and knowledge.

We act with respect, transparency, and integrity.



### Recap of 2024 – Orders and Legislation



Review of 12-21-23 U-20757 Commission Order



Energy Assistance Landscape and Legislation

New Clean Energy Legislation and Impacts on Affordability



Energy Assistance Legislative Updates and Assistance Status Updates

June



### Recap of 2024 - Panel Discussions



Finding Solutions When the Money is Gone



Serving Vulnerable Households with Energy Waste Reduction Services

Energy Efficiency, Home Weatherization Systems and Vulnerable Households



Increasing Coordination to Serve Vulnerable Households





Identifying Policy Priorities





### **Thoughts about Stability**

- Have housing stability for all, so that everyone will be able to be in an affordable, safe and healthy home environment.
- End homelessness.
- Create a methodology for prioritizing vulnerable households.
- Protect programs to continue forward momentum.



### Ideas around Holistic Approaches



Create safer, healthier, and more comfortable living environments.



Create an outcome that is transformational for the market, not just the outcome of any specific program..



Increase the energy efficiency of homes to create environmental sustainability,



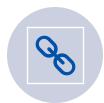
Take a more holistic approach to the FY25 SER plan.



Amplify the message that we need programs that address repairs that allow for whole home energy efficiency. electrification and renewables.



Move beyond crisis, take a more preventative approach,



Link services together through SDoH Hubs.



Allow creativity to happen.





#### **Coordination Concepts**



#### When a customer is in need, find them, recognize all their needs at once, get resources to them ASAP in a unified way.

A matrix or some kind of comprehensive pathway for residents to get needed assistance.

Try to align requirements as much as possible.

Ensure that those fielding calls are educated in the resources available.

Triage through tiers: Reaching livability, preweatherization, and then a handoff to energy efficiency.



#### Data sharing

Make data sharing **easier** to allow referrals and benefits to pass along without multiple points of contact.



#### A state office for coordination

A clearinghouse.

Not competing between different programs (for contractors, etc.)



# Thinking about Trust





#### It takes time to build trust.

It sounds too good to be true.

Danger of false expectations in terms of timing.



# Understand what the customer journey looks like.

What are the minimum requirements needed that don't deter that customer from participation?



#### Be proactive with education.

Partner with trusted community organizations.

Understand the value.



#### Overcome the perception of need at that home

That it is right here, right now.



## **Energy Specific Ideas**

Upcoming expansion of weatherization, an upcoming RFP to expand the weatherization network, and a marketing campaign to accompany the expansion.

Consider automatic restoration of power during extreme weather events.

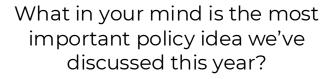
Be much more flexible with recovery of forbearance.

Identify contingency funding for extreme weather events.

Bring energy codes up to 21st century standards.

# **Policy Priorities**







What is the most urgent?



What is the most actionable?





### U-20757 Staff Report



- ☐ To be filed to the U-20757 Docket by year end.
- Includes updates on the work of:
  - → Critical Care Collaborative
  - → Data Analysis and Regulatory Review Subcommittee
  - → Definitions Subcommittee
  - → Customer Focused Data and Metrics internal working group



#### Announcements

- Upcoming workgroup and subcommittee meetings:
  - → EWR-LI Health and Safety
    - Tuesday, Jan. 7 @ 10:00 AM
  - → EAAC AAA Subcommittee
    - ☐ Tuesday, Jan. 7 @ 1:00 PM
  - → EWR –LI Workgroup
    - ☐ Thursday, Jan. 9 @ 9:00 AM
  - → EWR-LI Workforce Develop.
    - Friday, Jan. 10 @ 9:00 AM
- Voting Item: Board minutes result





# 2025 Meeting Dates





# **Public Comment**



