

Low-Income Energy Efficiency Outreach & Engagement (LIEEOE) Grant Cohort Meeting

JULY 15, 2026

HOSTED BY:

- LOW-INCOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP TEAM
- METROPOLITAN MAYORS CAUCUS

Agenda

- ▶ Welcome
- ▶ IQ-N Subcommittee — Context and Opportunity for Engagement
- ▶ IQ-N Subcommittee — Facilitator Support Team Introduction
- ▶ Next Steps and Discussion
- ▶ Program Updates and Reminders

Introduction

Briana Moore, Resource Recovery and Energy Division, Will
County Land Use Department and IQ-North Leadership
Team

Income-Qualified North Background

- ▶ Low-Income Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee (LIEEAC)
 - ▶ Established under the 2021 Climate and Equitable Jobs Act
 - ▶ Made of community-based organizations who inform utility programs for low-income families
 - ▶ Includes Income-Qualified North (IQ-N) subcommittee

IQ-North Subcommittee Team Roles

- ▶ Facilitator Role: manage the LIEEOE grants and to provide assistance to the facilitation support team.
- ▶ Role of the IQ-N Committee: work to inform decisions made about the energy efficiency programs in the ComEd and Nicor Gas service territory.
- ▶ Facilitation Support Team Role; to rebuild and assemble the LIEEAC IQ-N Subcommittee.
 - ▶ Ongoing support of the IQ-N Subcommittee to effectively engage in income-qualified energy efficiency issues.

IQ-N Subcommittee Background & Context

JIM ZOLNIEREK, CHIEF, PUBLIC
UTILITIES BUREAU, ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION

PHIL HALLIBURTON,
REGULATORY AFFAIRS
MANAGER, ENERGY
EFFICIENCY, COMED

Meet the Facilitator Support Team

Elena Savona, President of ES Consulting

- ▶ 20+ years in energy and sustainability, program management, strategy and development.

Recent Projects

- ▶ USGBC Green Janitor Health Training Program with SEIU
- ▶ Strategy and business planning for purpose-led organizations
- ▶ Supporting MMC and IQ North Leadership Team since October 2025



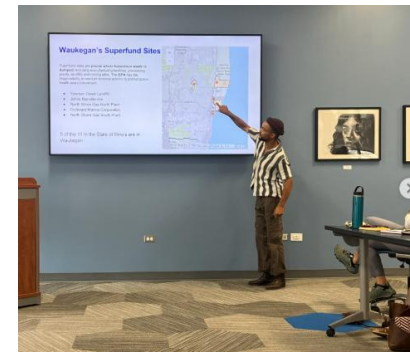
Meet the Facilitator Support Team

Frank Pettis, M.P.A.

- ▶ Community Organizer, Health Policy Specialist, Environmental Justice Community Member

Recent Projects

- ▶ Recycling Education and Outreach Program (REO)
- ▶ Live Well Lake County Network
- ▶ Nature Everywhere Waukegan



IQ-North Subcommittee Role and Purpose

Why We're Here

Many Illinois households continue to face:

- ▶ High energy burdens
- ▶ Limited access to efficiency programs
- ▶ Limited knowledge of energy practices
- ▶ Barriers to participating in efficiency programs

The people most affected must help design the solutions!

Vision for the IQ-North Subcommittee

Building Community Voices to Shape Energy Equity

Together we can:

- ▶ Improve energy affordability
- ▶ Advance equitable clean energy programs
- ▶ Ensure community voices shape decisions

Vision for the IQ-North Subcommittee

To build a trusted, collaborative network where community members, advocates, utilities, and partners work together to:

- ▶ Improve energy affordability
- ▶ Increase access to energy efficiency
- ▶ Influence policies that serve low-income, BIPOC, and environmental justice communities

How We Will Work Together

Our work is built on five pillars:

- **Engagement**

Recruit • Listen • Build Trust

- **Education**

Share resources • Learn together

- **Collaboration**

Discuss challenges • Build consensus

- **Action**

Develop recommendations • Influence programs

- **Reflection**

Evaluate • Improve • Grow

Everyone Plays a Role

The Subcommittee will bring together:

- ▶ Community Leaders
- ▶ Utilities
- ▶ Environmental Justice Organizations
- ▶ Policy Experts
- ▶ Nonprofit Partners
- ▶ Government Agencies

Every perspective strengthens the conversation!

How Ideas Become Action

▶ Community Experiences



▶ Subcommittee Discussion



▶ Consensus Recommendations



▶ Leadership Review



▶ Utility & Policy Discussions



▶ Better Programs for
Communities

What Success Looks Like

Within the first year we hope to achieve:

- ▶ 20+ active members
- ▶ Diverse Community Representation
- ▶ Transparent Decision Making
- ▶ Strong Member Engagement
- ▶ Actionable recommendations that influence programs

What You Can Expect From IQ-North

We'll Provide:

- ▶ Monthly Meetings
- ▶ Educational Presentations
- ▶ Office Hours
- ▶ Surveys
- ▶ Resource Sharing
- ▶ Opportunities to participate in external meetings

Our goal is meaningful participation—not just attendance.

The Impact We Can Create

Together we can work towards:

- ▶ Lower Energy Burdens
- ▶ Better access to energy efficiency programs
- ▶ More equitable clean energy investments
- ▶ Strong partnerships between communities and utilities
- ▶ Policies informed by lived experience

Join Us

- ▶ This isn't just another committee.
- ▶ It's an opportunity to build relationships, learn together, and ensure that community voices help shape the future of energy affordability in Illinois.
- ▶ **Your experience matters. Your voice matters. Together, we can make a difference.**

Next Steps and Discussions

- ▶ If you are interested in becoming a member of the subcommittee, please apply via [submittable](#), ideally by the next cohort meeting.
- ▶ Facilitator Support Team: Frank and Elena to reach out about scheduling one-on-one meetings.
- ▶ What would make this experience valuable to you?

LIEEOE Grant Program Updates/Reminders

► **Pick-up Energy Vampire Boards at RR Trade School**

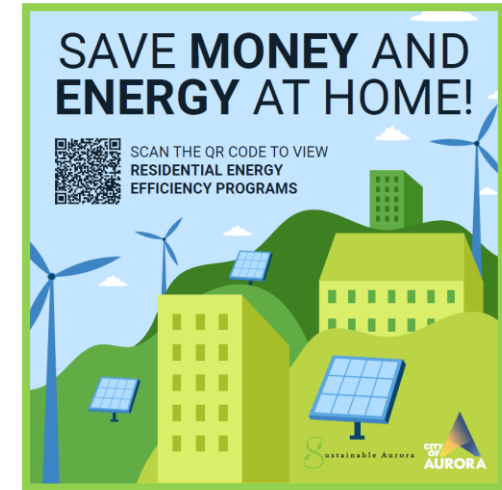
- Pick-Up Location: 815 N 16th Avenue Melrose Park, IL 60160
- Contact Brenda Jacobo, programs@rrtradeschool.com, to coordinate pick-up time.

► **Energy Vampire Mascots Hosts:**

- Community Action Partnership of Lake County. Contact Marsha Belcher.
- City of Elgin. Contact Kristin Iftner.
- Village of Park Forest. Contact Carrie Malfeo.
- *To see contact information, see “Energy Vampire Mascot Contacts” document in the shared folder in Dropbox.*

Highlights from Periodic Reports

- ▶ Events/Workshops/Presentations Attended or Hosted: **111**
- ▶ People Reached: **28,668**
- ▶ EE Kits distributed: **832**
- ▶ Flyers/educational information distributed: **40, 274**
- ▶ Residents enrolled in EE programs: **2,139**
- ▶ EE Ambassadors Trained: **30**



Questions & Feedback

Please email **Edith Makra**,
emakra@mayorscaucus.org and/or **Tori**
Woolbright, twoolbright@mayorscaucus.org with
any questions.

Next Cohort Meeting: Wednesday, August 15, 9-
10:30 a.m.