

# **RENEW Wisconsin: Solar grants help Wisconsin nonprofits invest \$1.4 million in renewable energy projects**

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RENEW Wisconsin's *Solar for Good* program has awarded over \$140,000 in grants and solar panel donations to Wisconsin nonprofit organizations. Fourteen nonprofits will install nearly 700 kilowatts of onsite, renewable electricity, leading to more than \$1.4 million in solar energy investments in Wisconsin.

The following organizations have been offered Fall 2021 *Solar for Good* grants to install new solar electric systems:

**Access Community Health Centers** - health care, Madison and Sun Prairie

**Catholic Charities** - human services, La Crosse

**Chapel Valley Church** - religious, Madison

**Cinnaire Solutions** - housing, Lac du Flambeau

**Common Wealth Development** - housing, Madison

**Dunn County Historical Society** - historical organization, Menomonie

**ECHO (Everyone Cooperating to Help Others)** - human services, Janesville

**First Church of Christ, Scientist** - religious, Madison

**Madison Circus Space** - community arts, Madison

**Madison Community Cooperative** - housing, Madison

**Midvale Community Lutheran Church** - religious, Madison

**Mt Zion Baptist Church** - religious, Madison

**Northern Lights Services** - health care, Washburn

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church** - religious, Appleton

This round's grant recipients represent nonprofits from across Wisconsin. Northern Lights Services will install over 300 solar panels on top of its Washburn-based health care facility. A 50-kilowatt array will be installed on the grounds of the Dunn County Historical Society in Menomonie. And Cinnaire Solutions will install nearly 90 kilowatts of solar power on top of 40 units of affordable housing in Lac du Flambeau in northern Wisconsin.

"Efforts like the Solar for Good program help us to conserve energy and direct more of our financial resources to providing health care services to our patients," said Joanne Holland of Access Community Health Centers. "We hope to help make our community healthier and more sustainable for all of us."

As part of receiving a grant, each organization agrees to highlight their solar project and provide education to their community about the benefits of solar energy.

"This solar array will allow us to expand on our mission of providing basic needs to the low-income population of Rock County," said Jessica Locher, Executive Director of ECHO. "The amount saved by the solar project will allow us to provide an additional 2,475 meals in our food pantry each month."

The 14 nonprofit organizations are a part of *Solar for Good's* 9th round of funding. Since its inception in 2017, *Solar for Good* has offered solar grants to 121 Wisconsin-based nonprofits.

When all *Solar for Good* projects are energized, these nonprofits will add over 5.3 megawatts of renewable energy to Wisconsin's electric mix, enough to power over 1,000 homes. *Solar for Good* grants have led to 123 new solar projects and nearly \$12 million in renewable energy investments for Wisconsin nonprofits.