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Fall 2024 Solar for Good Grant Awards

MADISON, WI – The Solar for Good grant program has awarded over \$220,000 in grants and solar panel donations to Wisconsin nonprofit organizations for the Fall 2024 grant round. The 14 nonprofits will install 16 projects for a total of 1,000 kilowatts of solar electricity, leading to more than \$2.3 million in renewable energy investments in Wisconsin.

The following organizations have been awarded Fall 2024 Solar for Good grants to install new solar energy systems:

CAP Services, Inc. - community service, Stevens Point

COULEECAP, Inc. Hillcrest Manor – affordable housing, Ontario

COULEECAP, Inc. REACH – community service, La Crosse

EAGLE School of Madison – education, Fitchburg

Family and Children's Center – community service, La Crosse

Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, Inc. - community service, Beloit

Holy Spirit Parish – house of worship, Stevens Point

Hunger Task Force – community service, West Milwaukee

Ozaukee Food Alliance – community service, Saukville

Recreation and Fitness Resources Center – recreation, Bayfield

Union Congregational United Church of Christ - house of worship, Green Bay

VIA CDC – affordable housing, Milwaukee

West Central Wisconsin Community Action Agency – affordable housing, Hudson

*One organization has asked to remain anonymous.

The grant recipients from the Fall 2024 grant round are a diverse range of organizations, representing affordable housing organizations, schools, and houses of worship. Each facility's solar project will have a significant impact on their budgets, and will allow them to focus more funds on their missions.

Holy Spirit Parish will install 90 panels atop their place of worship in Stevens Point, Family Services of Southern Wisconsin will incorporate 69.6kW of solar to their rooftop, and VIA CDC will install solar systems of 5.33 kilowatts on three housing projects in Milwaukee.

"We are thrilled and deeply grateful for this opportunity through RENEW Wisconsin's Solar for Good initiative. This support allows us to further our mission with VIA's Turnkey Program and new construction housing, making a lasting, positive impact on our community through sustainable energy," said JoAnna Bautch, Executive Director at VIA CDC.

Similarly, the Solar for Good grant will allow Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois to continue serving families in need by reducing operational costs and allocating more funding to programming.

"This funding has allowed us to equip our Next Steps Family Resilience Center with solar power that will be vital to the long-term sustainability of this programming for unhoused parents with young children while also contributing to a healthier community overall," said Kelsey M. Hood-Christenson, President and CEO, of Family & Children's Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois.

Since 2017, Solar for Good has awarded grants to over 200 nonprofits across Wisconsin, leading to more than \$29.4 million of renewable energy investments in the state. Collectively, Solar for Good grant recipients will go on to install more than 10 megawatts of solar energy.

"We are most grateful to the Couillard Solar Foundation for awarding us half the solar panels we need for installation of our solar array at Holy Spirit Parish in Stevens Point," said Susan Zach Burns, Solar Project Lead of Holy Spirit Parish. "By reducing our reliance on fossil fuel and turning to solar for a good share of our energy needs, we are joining with you and others to address greenhouse gas emissions and to care for our common home, our beautiful Earth."

"Our congregation has been energized literally and figuratively by our solar installation and our grant from Solar for Good. Not only will our installation reduce the carbon footprint of our church, it has inspired our members to invest in solar and other climate-friendly initiatives as well," said Reverand Bridget Flad Daniels, Union Congregational UCC of Green Bay.

Through the assistance from Solar for Good grants, these 16 installations will accelerate Wisconsin's transition to solar energy, facilitating the expansion of environmental stewardship and energy savings. As Solar for Good looks ahead to future grant rounds, the program will remain committed to supporting nonprofits and houses of worship across the state of Wisconsin by supporting organizations in their efforts to contribute to a positive environmental impact, enhance economic advancement in Wisconsin, and strengthen their ability to aid the communities they serve.

About RENEW Wisconsin

RENEW Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization that promotes renewable energy in Wisconsin. We work on policies and programs that support solar power, wind power, renewable fuels, local hydropower, electric vehicles, building electrification, and energy storage. More information on RENEW's website: www.renewwisconsin.org.

About Solar for Good

RENEW Wisconsin's Solar for Good initiative fosters the expansion of solar power among mission-based nonprofits and houses of worship in Wisconsin. Through a generous partnership with Couillard Solar Foundation, Solar for Good awards solar panels to nonprofit organizations, helping them switch to clean, renewable solar energy. www.renewwisconsin.org/solarforgood/

About Couillard Solar Foundation:

The Couillard Solar Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit whose mission is to further the urgent path to decarbonization for Wisconsin and create a cleaner, safer environment for everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status. They help schools and nonprofits gain vital access to solar power by providing solar panels, programs, and education through the Solar for Good and Solar on Schools grant programs. For more information, please visit www.CouillardSolarFoundation.org or follow us on LinkedIn, Facebook, or Instagram.