

STRATEGIES FOR SCALING SOLAR IN LOW INCOME COMMUNITIES

Perspectives Learned in Connecticut and Beyond

PRESENTATION TO VIRGINIA CLEAN ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 3, 2019



The "Why"



We believe everyone should have access to the benefits of clean energy:

- > A cleaner, more resilient environment in the face of climate change
- > Healthier communities & buildings that create positive social externalities
- > Sustainable economic value creation: reduced energy burdens, increased household/business savings, and enhanced community productivity

We can change the conversation in underinvested neighborhoods and underserved markets, helping to deliver <u>Inclusive Prosperity</u>.

Tapping into our LMI Market



Market research and data-driven approaches are key to a <u>product roadmap</u>:

- Identifying our target audiences
- Developing programs that identify and address the needs of our target audiences
- Targeting our efforts and developing community partners
- Adapting our messaging and communicating benefits

DATA WE USE

- Census and general market data (DOE LEAD)
- Credit data (FICO)
- Customer segmentation data (PRIZM)
- Energy burden modeling







CT Low-to-Moderate Income Market: By the Numbers



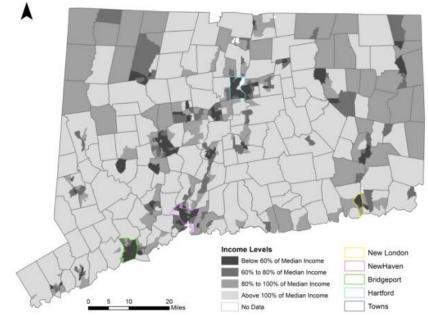
	Income Level by AMI Band	# of Census Tracts	Tract Households	% of Households	Tract Owner Occupied Households	% OO HHs in AMI Band	Tract Renter Occupied Households	% Rental HHs in AMI Band	Average Median Household Income
\bigcap	<60%	167	232,021	17%	67,273	29%	164,748	71%	\$35,054
	60%-80%	110	194,858	14%	103,963	53%	90,895	47%	\$55,135
	80%-100%	128	225,955	17%	149,072	66%	76,883	34%	\$69,958
	100%-120%	144	253,815	19%	193,581	76%	60,234	24%	\$81,930
	>120%	274	448,028	33%	386,334	86%	61,694	14%	\$118,744
	Grand Total	823	1,354,677	100%	900,223	66%	454,454	34%	\$78,658

CT Green Bank Definitions

Low Income = 80% AMI or lower, 40% are homeowners

Moderate income – 81%-100% AMI, 66% homeowners

Income Levels within Towns



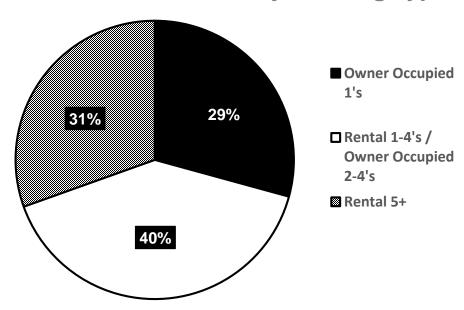
REFERENCES

Residential Low-Income Market CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK



By the Numbers

Low-Income Households by Housing Type



QUICK FACTS: LMI HOUSING IN CT

Connecticut Population - 3,589,000

Total Housing Units – 1,355,000

Total Low Income Units – 427,000 (32%)

% Low Income in 1-4 Units – 70% (297,000)

% of Low Income in 5+ Units - 30% (130,000)

% Homes that are Low Income

- Single Family 17%
- 2-4 units 64%
- Multifamily 5+ units 56 %

% of Homes Built Before 1979 – 72%

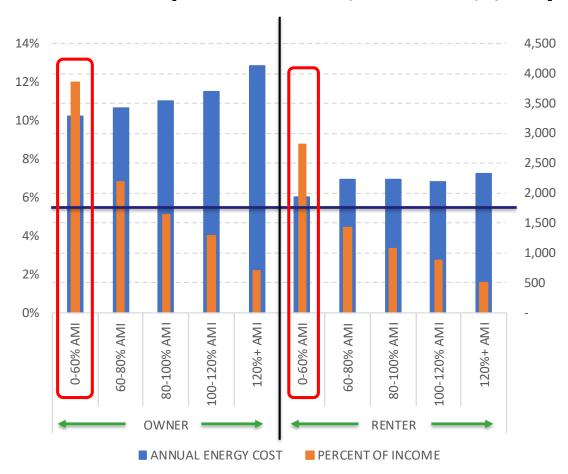
% of Homes Built Before 1939 - 25%

Low income households are concentrated in older properties in poor condition, in need of significant capital improvements, and include *many* smaller rental properties.

Reducing Energy Burdens For Those That Need It Most



ENERGY BURDEN [AVG. EXPENDITURES/AVG. INCOME, \$/YEAR]



To have meaningful impact on energy burdens we must provide comprehensive solutions that combine solar + EE

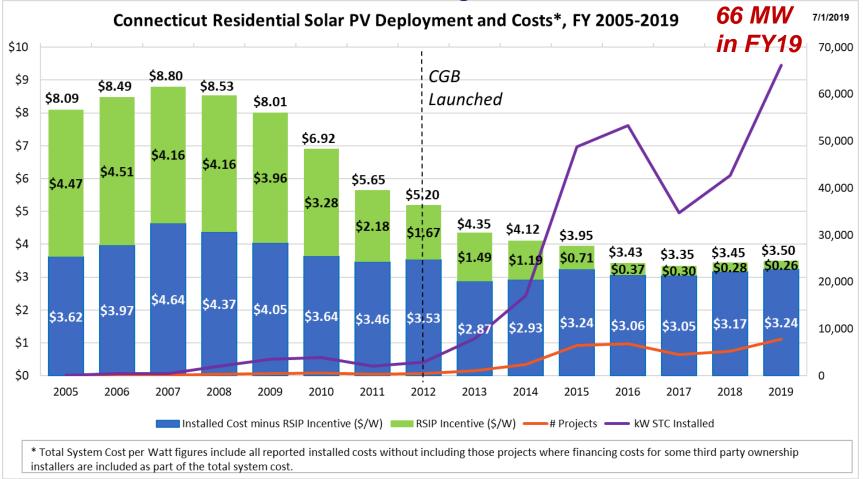
Energy costs are amongst the highest in the country and a significant portion of household expenses

More than **half** our low income residents suffer a high energy cost **burden** (>10% of income)

Average annual residential energy expenditure in Connecticut is \$3,000*

CT's Residential Solar Deployment CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK 273 MW out of 350 MW

A declining block incentive program began in 2012 and an elevated LMI incentive began in 2105. By calibrating incentives with availability of affordable financing, deployment has risen as incentives have declined, including for LMI.







AMI Band	# of Solar PV Projects	# Owner Occupied Households (1-4 Units)	% of Owner Occupied Households (1-4 Units) with Solar
<60%	2,759	60,769	4.5%
60-80%	4,007	99,220	4.0%
80-100%	5,931	165,331	3.6%
100-120%	6,934	187,463	3.7%
>120%	11,347	345,311	3.3%
Total	30,978	858,094	3.6%

	# Owner Occupied Households (1- 4 units)	% Owner Occupied Households (1- 4 units)	% of RSIP Installations
Majority Hispanic	31,152	3.6%	4.1%
Majority Black	18,163	2.1%	3.8%
Majority White	731,901	85.3%	81.8%
No Majority Race	76,878	9.0%	10.3%
Total	858,094	100.0%	100.0%

Households that were previously underrepresented in solar adoption responded favorably to market focus.

CT residential rooftop solar is now "beyond parity" in LMI and communities of color

Residential 1-4 Owner Occupied



Low-to-Moderate Income Strategies



Solar for All Partnership

smart-e loan

- Residential Solar Investment Program
- Low-to-Moderate
 Income Performance
 Based Incentive for
 Third Party Owners
- Nearly 3x market rate incentive
- Income screen of 100% AMI or lower

- \$70 MM Solar for All campaign
- Solar Lease and Energy Efficiency Energy Services Agreement
- Direct Install utilityadministered EE program leveraged
- Alternative underwrite
- Community partnerships

- \$60MM programLow interest, long term
- Unsecured loan
- 40+ measures (EE and RE)
- 580+ FICO, 50% DTI

 (waived for 680%
 FICO, offered through
 CDFI and credit unions)
- 25% of loan for health and safety upgrades

Thoughtful program guidelines help achieve strong consumer protections

Smart-E Loan Now Focusing on Credit-

Challenged and LMI



smart-e loan

- Unsecured personal loan that encourages bundling energy measures
- 10 local lenders participating and 300+ local contractors
- 40+ energy improvements can be financed
 - Solar, EV chargers, Storage, Boilers, Furnaces, Heat Pumps, Central Air, Insulation and more!
- Up to \$25,000 (new!) can be used to address mold & asbestos as standalone measures
- Up to 25% of loan can be used for other health & safety issues

Loan Terms

5-yr	7-yr	10-yr	12-20-yr
4.49%	4.99%	5.99%	6.99%

Standard: 640+ FICO, 40-45% DTI

Credit-Challenged: 580+ FICO, 50% DTI

FICO Score Range	# of Closed Loans	% of Loans	# of Owner Occupied 1-4 unit Homes	% of Owner Occupied Homes
580-639	98	2.75%	41,988	6.40%
640-679	276	7.76%	46,791	7.13%
680-699	348	9.78%	34,018	5.19%
700-719	379	10.65%	40,979	6.25%
720-739	386	10.85%	47,430	7.23%
740+	2071	58.21%	444,869	67.81%
Total	3558	100%	656,075	100%

AMI Bands	# of closed loans	% of loans	# of owner occupied 1-4 unit properties	% of owner occupied homes
<60%	220	6%	60,769	7%
60%-80%	417	12%	99,220	12%
80%-100%	673	19%	165,331	19%
100%-120%	790	22%	187,463	22%
>120%	1501	42%	345,311	40%
Total	3604	100%	858,094	100%

REFERENCES Data through 5/31/19

smart-e loan

Program Sponsor



Loan Loss Reserve

T/A + Marketing + Contractor Oversight

Local Lenders



Contractors

Solar, HVAC, EE, etc. New Customers & Depositors

More Loan Volume

Lower Interest Rates

Bank*

Longer Repayment
Periods (5 – 12/15/20
Yrs.)

More Jobs

Customers





Finance Your Next Smart Energy Project with a Smart-E Loan

Solar For All Partnership



Lease & ESA for Single Family LMI Market

Co-investment: \$20 million of capital from Connecticut Green Bank and Inclusive Prosperity Capital leveraged to create a \$70 million fund







Target \$500 a year in savings after financing.



Multifamily Solar Financing Programs

Solar PPA

Type Rate Solar projects

Fixed or escalating price

Term 20 years

Criteria 10%+ Year 1 Variable

Electric Rate Savings



Catalyst

Type Rate Term Affordable MFH

5.79-7.99% 7-20 years

Criteria 1.2 project Energy

Savings Coverage Ratio*



C-PACE

Type Rate Term Market-rate projects

5.00-6.50%

5-25 years

Criteria 1.0x+ Energy Savings

Coverage Ratio



^{*} For solar projects; efficiency projects must be 1.3x+

Scaling Up Don't go it alone!



















































connecticut

















Conclusions

- Partnerships are needed to leverage resources and provide comprehensive solutions
- Programs should fill gaps in the market and be developed with a datadriven approach
- > Targeted outreach and focused efforts can amplify results
- Barriers to program participation should be reduced as much as possible – don't assume just because uptake is low that your product is the problem... it could be execution (see above on partnerships + targeted outreach, also look at contractors/are they serving target markets?)
- Universal program metrics engender transparency and accountability measure progress, identify what works, what doesn't and where the gaps are
- Consumer protections and education are a must, especially with LMI, and even more <u>especially with LMI seniors</u>
- Need to have a long horizon, analyze your market, sequence strategies, and invest for long term







Contacts

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Supplemental Materials

From Inclusive Prosperity Capital and Connecticut Green Bank



Resources

IPC Financing Products and Programs:

- > Please <u>contact us</u> for inquiries about the Smart-E program model, LMI community solar, investments in LMI solar loan programs or PAYS program
- Catalyst term loan for affordable multifamily/nonprofit properties: overview available here
- Solar PPA for affordable multifamily/nonprofit properties: overview available here
- > Solar + Storage low cost debt: overview available here

Connecticut Green Bank:

- Sharing Solar Success: Solar in LMI and Communities of Color Report available here
- > Webinar Slides Solar 101 for Multifamily Housing in CT (full webinar recording)
- Video case study Southwest Terrace Apartments CT



Opportunity & Approach

Inclusive Prosperity Capital, Inc. is a not-for-profit specialty financing intermediary focused on aligning investment capital with organizations, projects, and community initiatives that successfully scale traditionally underserved markets:

- > Low-to-Moderate Income Residential Solar
- > Multifamily & Nonprofit
 Developments & Retrofits
- > Solar for C&I, Community Assets, and Nonprofits
- > Grid/Infrastructure Hydro (Small-scale), Fuel Cells, Anaerobic Digestion
- > Fee for Service Advisory and Residential Lending Platform



Capital + Products + Strategy
honed by key members of the
IPC leadership team at the
Connecticut Green Bank

Partnering Advantages:

- Turnkey products and customized solutions created for hard-to-reach markets
- Expert staff experienced in motivating contractors, owners and partners to drive impact
- Proven approaches to bring new products to market
- Consumer protections built into products





National Residential Loan Platform

Smart-E mobilizes the lending capacity of local lenders, a vetted contractor network, and the relationships of program sponsors to scale clean energy home upgrades in a national residential loan platform using a standardized product that also supports underserved borrowers.

Low-to-Moderate Income & Credit Challenged Expertise

- Same product serves this hard-to-reach market
- Deep expertise in reaching this segment
- Built in consumer protections
- Contractor vetting and oversight



Best-in-Class Backers

Sustainable and Cost-Effective

- Build relationships with local lenders and contractors to support market transformation
- Lower rates possible using lenders' on-deposit capital vs. privately sourced capital and a credit enhancement
- No servicing fees for sponsors
- Administration costs lowered as volume on platform scales

Connecticut Green Bank, Michigan Saves and Hewlett Foundation



Serving Unconventional Credits & LMI

As an innovative, first-of-a-kind fund structure employing the PACE security for commercial-scale PPAs, the Green Bank Solar PPA has opened the market to sectors traditionally excluded from solar financing



green bank solar ppa

Project Type	# of PPAs	MW
Municipalities / Public Schools / State	53	18.4
Non-profits, housing authorities	27	4.8
Commercial	16	4.1
Houses of Worship	11	0.6





What are the Benefits of a PPA?

No upfront costs (for PV system)

Lock in discounted electricity rate

Positive cash flow

CGB owns operations & maintenance costs

Preserve capital & credit lines

Monetizes value of federal ITC





Product Comparison for Affordable MFH Properties

Solar PPA

- Off-balance sheet.
- Ancillary projectrelated work may be financed (if identified prior to PPA execution)
- Monetizes and passes along financial benefit of ITC to property owner

LIME Loan

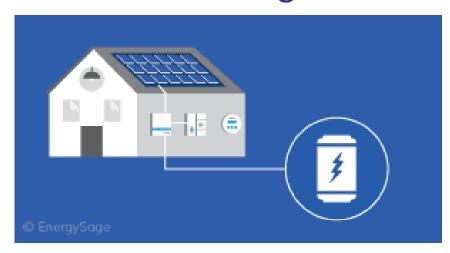
- Unsecured (UCC-1 filing)
- Ancillary projectrelated work may be financed (as identified prior to loan document execution, subject to ESCR reqs)
- ITC monetized by owner, independent of loan

C-PACE

- Secured to property (1st position lien)
- Ancillary projectrelated work may be financed (as identified prior to loan document execution, subject to ESCR reqs)
- ITC monetized by owner, independent of loan



Solar plus Storage Low Cost Financing for LMI Communities



Loans up to \$300,000, 3-4% for up to 12 years, 2% closing fee.

Projects must provide resiliency to low income urban communities.

Learn more <u>here</u>.

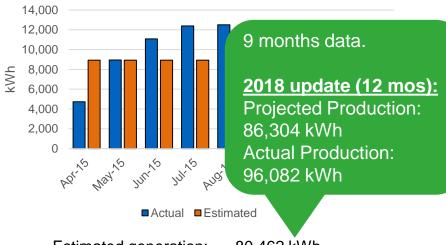


Net metering example – Ashford Senior Housing Center





Estimated vs. Actual Solar Power Generation 2015

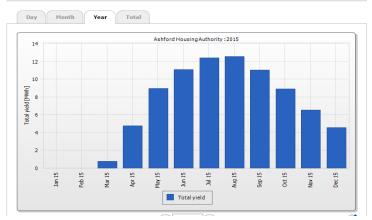


Estimated generation: 80,462 kWh

Actual generation: 80,724 kWh

Difference: 262 kWh

Note: Solar PV system is sized based on annual electricity usage

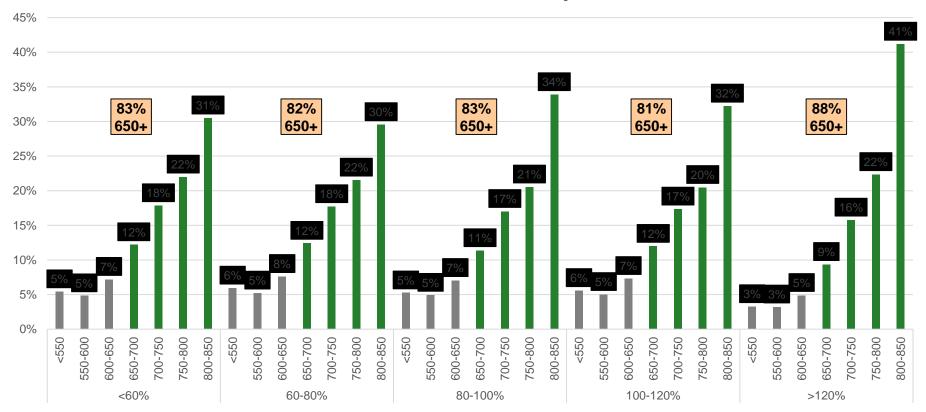


25 Live dashboard view of metered electricity

Credit-Worthy LMI Borrowers In Greater #'s in CT than Presumed



CT Homeowners 2017 FICO Scores by Income Band

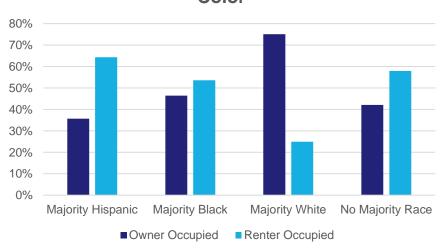


This presents an opportunity for financing for some segments of the low-to-moderate income market

CT Communities of Color: By the Numbers



Housing Occupancy in Communities of Color*



	1-4 Unit Owner Occupied Households	Percent of all Owner Occupied 1-4 Unit Households
Majority Hispanic	31,152	3.6%
Majority Black	18,163	2.1%
Majority White	731,901	85.3%
No Majority Race	76,878	9.0%
Grand Total	858,094	100.0%

Less than 6% of owner-occupied households are in communities of color

Renters have fewer opportunities to participate in clean energy programs/make energy improvements than owners

Customer Segmentation

A targeted approach to customer acquisition



DOLLARS & SENSE



"Judy & Dante"



Total Customer Count: 74,143

SEEKING STABILITY



Total Customer Count: 61,434

SURVIVING NOT THRIVING



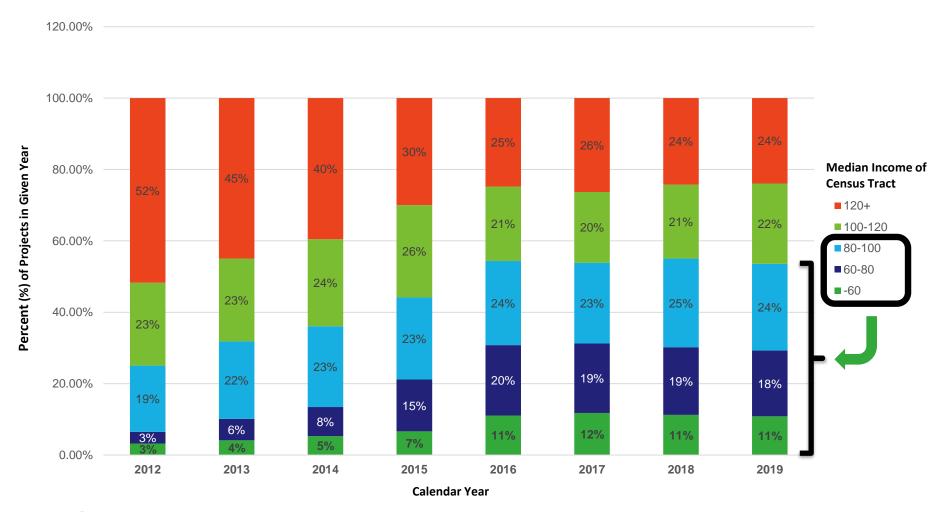
"Emma"



Total Customer Count: 18,186

Moving the Needle on Inclusive Prosperity





Solar penetration in census tracts earning <100% of area median income grew from 25% in 2012 to over 50% after 2016

On-Bill vs. Unsecured Lending



- On-bill doesn't appear to give a product an advantage over direct bill/unsecured
 - Contractor channel and targeted outreach are <u>much, much</u> more important to success
- But PAYS/On-Bill Tariff approaches have unique advantages that should be considered
- Get to know your utilities
 - Do they want to be involved in an on-bill program
 - Are their billing, customer service, other systems set up to handle all the intricacies of on-bill?
 - What's their IT queue like? (e.g., is it 1+ years before your project can get programmed?
 - How much will it cost, and who is paying?
 - e.g., in Smart-E product, participating lenders pay for origination/underwriting/servicing, not the program



Connecticut Green Bank CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK



Social and Environmental Impact

NVESTMENT

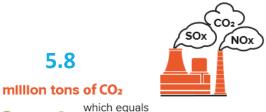
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION













tree seedlings grown for 10 years passenger vehicles driven for one year

TAX REVENUES



sales taxes

ENERGY BURDEN REDUCED



families 40,000



businesses 375

PUBLIC HEALTH SAVINGS



REFERENCES