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Bridgeport Mayor's Conservation Corps Hires Youths to Promote Energy Reduction

Mayor Finch to host kickoff event Thursday, July 16 on the McLevy Green

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (July 13, 2015) – Mayor Bill Finch's Conservation Corps and [Energize Connecticut](#), in partnership with the United Illuminating Company (UI), hired students to canvass Bridgeport neighborhoods starting July 20, 2015. The effort is designed to promote a variety of energy efficiency programs available to city residents, including [Home Energy Solutions – Income Eligible \(HES-IE\)](#), solar-powered and city-sponsored programs.

From July 20 through August 21, students will target 10,000 households throughout Bridgeport, specifically those households in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) that are eligible for HES-IE home assessments. The travelling youths will work closely with New England Smart Energy (NESE), a HES-IE program vendor, to provide important information regarding the benefits of HES-IE, as well as numerous other energy efficiency initiatives available to residents.

HES-IE is a no-cost weatherization program designed to create more energy-efficient and comfortable homes, therefore lowering monthly energy costs. Each energy assessment is performed by professional energy experts who inspect each home to discover possible energy-saving improvements. HES-IE customers may receive the following services:

- Diagnostic testing, blower door guided air sealing, duct sealing
- Installation of energy-saving light bulbs, including CFLs and LEDs
- Installation of water-saving products like low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators and hot water pipe wrap
- Replacement of qualifying appliances with ENERGY STAR® models
- Educational tips on how to further reduce energy costs
- Information on incentives and financing for additional upgrades including insulation, windows and heating and cooling equipment

“The goal of this effort is to inform our customers within the Community Development Block Grant about the benefits of home energy efficiency programs available,” said Marissa Westbrook, manager of residential energy services, The United Illuminating Company. “By partnering with the city of Bridgeport and the Mayor, we are able to further build on our past successes by reaching out to 10,000+ residences this summer. We’re optimistic that this will achieve a significant increase in homeowners participating in the energy efficiency programs provided by Energize Connecticut.”

A kickoff and educational event will be held on **Thursday, July 16** from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** on the **McLevy Green**. Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch, PosiGen Solar and representatives from the Bridgeport adopt program will all be in attendance.

To obtain more information on energy efficiency programs, please call 1-877-WISE-USE or visit EnergizeCT.com. You can also join in on the energy-efficient conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/energizect.

About Energize Connecticut

Energize Connecticut helps you save money and use clean energy. It is an initiative of the Energy Efficiency Fund, the Connecticut Green Bank, the State, and your local electric and gas utilities, with funding from a charge on customer energy bills. Information on energy-saving programs can be found at EnergizeCT.com or by calling 1.877.WISE.USE.

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