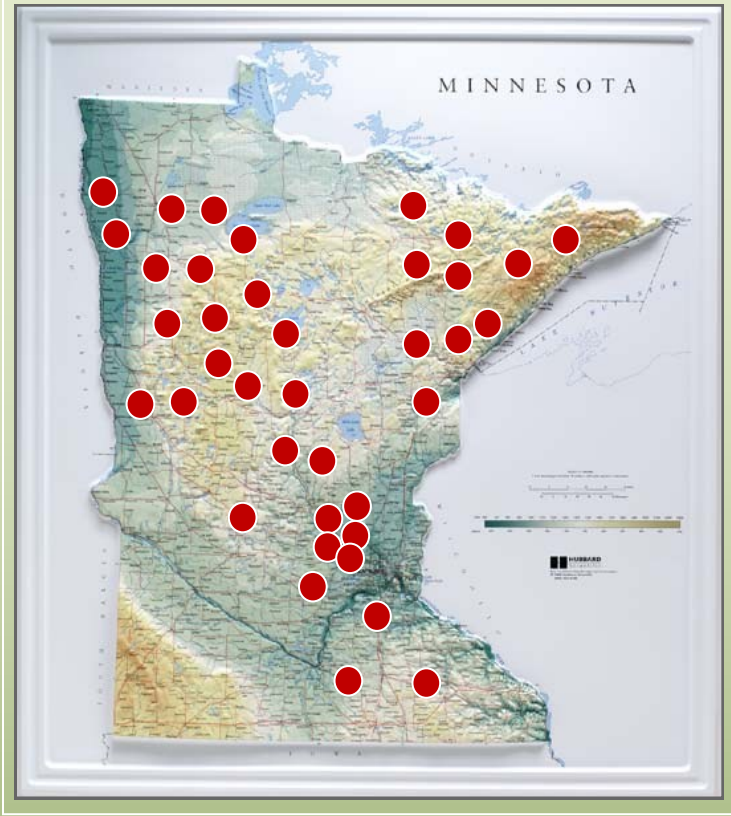
2012 Fall Newsletter

The Power to Make a Difference



Statewide Solar Assistance Program Nears Completion!

In partnership with nine community action agencies and the State of Minnesota, RREAL is striving to complete 213 installations by year's end.

When complete, this two year project will have resulted in:

- **213 Families empowered with solar heat;**
- **13,000 additional square feet of solar thermal collectors deployed;**
- **At least 8 full-time jobs maintained or created;**
- ***Annual* clean energy production of 1.7 Billion BTUs;**
- ***Annual* CO2 emission reductions of at least150 tons;**
- **9 weatherization agencies trained in solar air heat design/install, and**
- **Increased regional energy security.**

Announcing Three AmeriCorps Positions in 2013!

Apply Today to become a Solar Heat Specialist with RREAL!

Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

RREAL and the *Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa* Partner to conduct Solar Thermal Outreach and Education and Solar Assistance program replication. We are seeking highly motivated, self directed applicants with a bias for action interested in learning more about solar thermal. Three volunteers will be placed at RREAL's HQ, Conservation Corps offices in Iowa and Red River Valley Community Action Agency in Grand Forks, North Dakota respectively. Volunteers will be responsible for carrying out RREAL's Solar Assistance mission, training Conservation Corps members and facilitating community outreach regarding solar thermal. Learn more about this life changing opportunity at:

conservation corps MINNESOTA & IOWA

http://conservationcorps.catsone.com/careers/index.php

Friends,

Thanks for your ongoing support and encouragement of RREAL. Because of you, we continue to move families from ***impoverished to empowered***. Fighting poverty with clean energy through RREAL's Solar Assistance program is an powerfully effective, breakthrough idea. By stabilizing the cost of home heating with clean and domestic solar energy, we've empowered nearly 300 families and hope to see that number soar in the coming years. We can do so with *your* help.

As part of a statewide Solar Assistance Training and Installation project, RREAL is sprinting to the finish line and needs to complete an additional 30 systems *before year's end* in partnership with nine of Minnesota's Community Action Agencies. This Statewide delivery of solar thermal to hundreds of low-income households is an historic and paradigm shifting endeavor. Never before has the national weatherization community adopted clean energy technologies as a tool to address low-income home heating at this scale. Thanks to the dedication and persistence of RREAL, its supporters and innovative leadership at the State of Minnesota energy programs, our region is forever changing the way our *nation* addresses low-income fuel poverty.

Please, help us complete this nationally unique project. Please, help us ensure that another 30 families will have the ability to weather the storm of home heating this winter and for decades to come. Help us further demonstrate that clean energy is not only a tool for economic development and environmental stewardship but also a tool help to combat poverty. Together, we have the *power to make a difference*. ***Help RREAL help others through a tax deductible donation on November 15th - Give to the Max Day - at GiveMN.org. Your donation will be matched dollar for dollar up to $5000!***

Thanks, The RREAL Crew

Thanks!

While providing years of reliable, affordable heat for hundreds of families in a single year is truly wonderful and exciting, there are still more than *34.5 million* American households that will struggle with fuel-poverty this winter; more than 500,000 in MN alone! Families will be faced with unfair decisions such as whether to forgo basic needs, like food and health care, in order to afford a warm, healthy home. Please help us end this unnecessary cycle of suffering by helping to empower families with decades of clean and renewable solar heat!

Support RREAL with a tax deductible donation today!

Make a tax-deductible donation to

help RREAL help families grappling with fuel poverty.

**RREAL is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are 100% tax-deductible and go directly to help fund RREAL's mission of making solar power accessible to everyone!*

www.rreal.org