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Over \$2M Invested in Clean Energy Projects Across North Country

ANCA wraps up two NYSERDA programs this year

SARANAC LAKE, N.Y. — The Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) recently wrapped up two innovative clean energy programs that have helped municipalities reduce costs and increase energy efficiency for their communities.

Since 2015, the ANCA Clean Energy Program has worked with municipalities and residents to help implement two New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) programs: the Cleaner Greener Communities (CGC) One Stop Shop (OSS) Program and the Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Program. Among ANCA's multiple and ongoing initiatives that bring clean energy investments and opportunities to North Country communities, the OSS and CEC programs provided over \$2M in energy funding to the region.

"They spoke and we listened," said ANCA Energy Circuit Rider Nancy Bernstein. "We were hearing from multiple municipalities that they were interested in clean energy, but did not have the time or technical expertise to fund and complete projects."

The OSS program was designed to meet those needs by offering responsive, informed assistance to municipalities through the creation of four Energy Circuit Rider (ECR) positions and the development of tools and resources. ANCA was awarded the OSS grant in 2015 as part of NYSERDA's Cleaner Greener Communities Program.

Over a four-year period, the ANCA ECR team connected with 195 North Country communities and assisted in completing a variety of clean energy projects including interior light-emitting diode (LED) lighting upgrades, building envelope improvements, battery storage feasibility studies, net zero design, pellet boiler installations, LED streetlight conversions, electric vehicle charging station installation, solar siting and solar installations.

"Hands down the most enjoyable part of our job is supporting the hard-working leaders and community volunteers such as the Keene Green Team and the Canton Sustainability Committee," said ANCA ECR Jennifer Perry. "It was our pleasure to help them achieve their goals."

Starting in 2016, ANCA's ECRs led a successful outreach campaign through the CEC program, providing technical and financial support for 35 North Country communities and assisting each in the adoption of at least four of ten "high impact action items" determined by the State as important first steps in achieving its clean energy goals. The first 18 communities to achieve CEC designation were awarded \$50K-\$250 to complete clean energy projects. To date, 19 municipalities are designated CEC Communities in the North Country.

Malone Town Supervisor Andrea Steward said, "This CEC program has been invaluable in our ongoing efforts to make our highway garage more energy efficient and more comfortable for our workers. With the help of ANCA's Energy Circuit Riders, we have successfully upgraded our streetlights to LED, which has improved safety while reducing energy costs."

"It is Elizabethtown's mission to set an example to our residents that we are committed to green practices such as purchasing renewable power and reducing our energy related costs," said Noel Merrihew, Elizabethtown Town Supervisor. "We look forward to working with the program in the future."

"It has been a great pleasure partnering with ANCA's ECR team who has assisted municipalities to save money and protect the environment through \$1,560,000 worth of clean energy project support," said Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) Director of Sustainability Todd Fabozzi, who oversees the CEC program for the Eastern Upstate NY Territory, which includes the North Country region. "We thank these communities for their leadership and congratulate them on their designation."

Alicia Barton, NYSERDA President and CEO, said, "Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, private-public partnerships are helping communities all across New York State take advantage of state initiatives like NYSERDA's Cleaner Greener Communities and Clean Energy Communities programs that save energy, lower costs and grow the economy while combatting climate change. Thanks to the work of our partners at the Adirondack North Country Association, more communities in the region will have the opportunity to join in New York's transition and benefit from cleaner and more affordable energy future."

For a complete list of designated communities and their projects, visit [NYSERDA's CEC website](#).

ANCA's Clean Energy Program continues to provide support for municipalities interested in adopting clean energy practices and technologies. For more information about ANCA's ECR services or to contact the Clean Energy team, call (518) 891-6200 or email energy@adirondack.org.

[ANCA](#) is an independent nonprofit organization growing the New Economy in northern New York. Using an integrated approach to sustainable economic development and prosperity where economic health, community vitality and ecological stewardship are equally important outcomes, ANCA focuses on creating opportunity for people with diverse backgrounds, experience and education levels.

Attached: one (1) PDF document and one (2) images

Photo courtesy of the Town of Plattsburgh: The Town of Plattsburgh achieved its Clean Energy Communities (CEC) designation in 2017. In 2018, the town used part of its \$100,000 NYSERDA CEC award to purchase a plug-in hybrid vehicle to add to the municipality's fleet.

Image from NYSERDA "Designated Clean Energy Communities Map" [webpage](#).

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