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## **Sustainable Essex Wins Competitive Grant for Energy Efficiency Outreach in Town of Essex**

*Funding awarded through the Energize Connecticut<sup>SM</sup> Community Partnership Initiative*

**Essex, Connecticut, April 25, 2024** – Recently, the Sponsors of Energize Connecticut<sup>SM</sup>, Eversource and Avangrid, Inc. subsidiaries United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas and Connecticut Natural Gas, awarded Sustainable Essex of the Town of Essex with a \$9,025 Community Partnership Grant.

In an effort to make energy efficiency affordable and accessible to all, the Community Partnership Initiative grants enable local community groups, nonprofit organizations and municipalities to further energy efficiency adoption and educate residents and businesses on the energy efficiency solutions available to them.

Kalyn D'Occhio, Sustainable Essex Chair had the following to say, “We are so pleased to be able to help spread the word about residential energy assessments performed by Eversource authorized contractors. If we all make small changes within our daily living, we can make a much larger cumulative impact. Essex, let's start the change at home.”

Norm Needleman, Essex First Selectman, shared his encouragement, “The Energize CT energy efficiency programs offer residents a great opportunity to find out where energy might be being wasted. I encourage the residents of the town to take advantage of this resource.”

The grant awarded to Sustainable Essex will support outreach to encourage participation in EnergyWise Essex and focus on achieving the following energy efficiency goals:

Demonstrating actions that will lead to an increase in homes participating in Home Energy Solutions<sup>SM</sup> - Income Eligible.

This is the second round of funding the program has awarded. In 2022, the Community Partnership Initiative supported efforts in Bethel, Branford, Hamden, Middletown, New London, Waterbury, West Hartford, and Wilton.

“Programs like the Community Partnership Initiative make energy efficiency more affordable and accessible to people in the communities we serve, and help work towards a greener economy in Connecticut,” said Eversource Executive Vice President of Customer Experience and Energy Strategy, Penni Conner. “We're proud of the continuous effort by our community partners to help customers lower



their energy bills, while spreading awareness about the variety of energy saving solutions that will help their small businesses and local organizations thrive.”

“Energy Efficiency helps customers improve the value of their homes and businesses, increase their comfort, and reduce their carbon footprint,” said Frank Reynolds, President and CEO of United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas, and Connecticut Natural Gas. “With this Initiative’s second round of funding, we look forward to reaching businesses and homeowners with new opportunities for energy efficiency projects, and we celebrate the contribution they’re now making to Connecticut’s clean energy goals as we work to achieve a green economy.”

Essex residents can sign up for a Home Energy Solutions assessment by calling project partner, New England Smart Energy at (203) 292-8088. Please mention EnergyWise Essex.

For more information on the Community Partnership Initiative, please visit [EnergizeCT.com](http://EnergizeCT.com).