

## ***Thank You to the North Country Regional Meeting Leaders***

The LIFE Steering Committee would like to recognize our Regional Meeting leaders for their time and expertise in the development of the agenda for this meeting. Their commitment to the LIFE mission and the support from the organizations that they represent on the LIFE Steering Committee is greatly appreciated. Thank you to:

- Sue Montgomery Corey, Community Power Network of NYS
- Carolyn King, National Grid

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Since the NYS Public Service Commission initiated LIFE in 1998, the LIFE Steering Committee has been an integral part of the growth and development of the program. The Steering Committee is comprised of the following organizations:

The Association for Energy Affordability, Inc.  
Cattaraugus County Community Action, Inc.  
Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation  
Community Power Network of NYS, Inc.  
Consolidated Edison of NY, Inc.  
Long Island Power Authority (LIPA)  
National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation  
National Grid  
New York State Community Action Association (NYSCAA)  
New York State Department of Public Service (NYS DPS)  
New York State Department of State (NYS DOS)  
New York State Housing and Community Renewal (HCR)  
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)  
New York State Office for the Aging (NYS OFA)  
New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)  
New York State Weatherization Director's Association (NYSWDA)  
New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG)  
Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R)  
Orange County United Way  
The Public Utility Law Project (PULP)  
Rochester Gas and Electric (RG&E)

*As part of our on-going commitment to both environmental and fiscal responsibility, we will not be printing and distributing presentation handouts. Please support us in these efforts by going to [www.lifenynews.org](http://www.lifenynews.org) after to download copies of available presentations. Attendees will receive an email notification when the presentations become available.*

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*\*The LIFE program may photograph, videotape, and/or audiotape attendees and materials at the functions of the meeting. The productions of such may be freely disseminated for the purposes including, but not limited to, future outreach, education and informational efforts.*

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*LIFE is sponsored by the New York State Public Service Commission and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. For more information about LIFE, please visit our website at [www.lifenynews.org](http://www.lifenynews.org).*

## **LOW-INCOME FORUM ON ENERGY 2011 REGIONAL MEETING SERIES**

**North  
Country**

**May 12 , 2011**

**Lake Placid  
New York**

# **AGENDA**

**THE PINES INN  
2302 SARANAC AVENUE  
LAKE PLACID, NY 12946**



## 2011 Regional Meetings

### Welcome

On behalf of the LIFE Steering Committee, welcome to today's LIFE Regional Meeting, one of six taking place around the State. This year's theme, This is your LIFE, reflects our goal of providing community leaders and service providers with useful, timely information to assist the growing number of low income consumers struggling to make ends meet in these economically challenging times. Today's program will supply valuable resources on energy efficiency assistance programs, energy affordability, and highlight some regional best practices. We have also set aside time for networking and to learn from each other. By the end of the day, we hope you'll leave feeling more knowledgeable, connected and energized.

**Len Silverstein**  
LIFE Chairman

### 8:30 – 9:30 AM

#### Registration, Networking

### 9:30 – 9:45 AM

#### Welcome & Introductions

Welcome: Len Silverstein, NYS Dept. of Public Service & LIFE Chairman

### 9:45 – 10:15 AM

#### Session 1: Energy Affordability in the North Country

This presentation will explore the various demographic and economic factors that impact energy affordability within the North Country.

Speaker: Christopher Coll, NYSERDA

### 10:15 – 10:30 AM

#### Organized Networking

### 10:30 – 11:00 AM

#### Session 2: What is an Energy Audit?

An energy audit is the first step in determining the energy savings potential of a house. This presentation will provide you with a hands-on look at the procedures and diagnostic tools used in an energy audit.

Speaker: Matt Redmond, NYS Weatherization Directors' Association (NYSWDA)

### 11:00 – 11:45 AM

#### Session 3: Going Green without Spending Green

You don't have to purchase new appliances or pay for energy efficiency upgrades in your home to reduce your energy costs. This presentation will provide you with information on low cost or no cost energy savings actions that you and your clients can implement to save energy and money.

Speaker: Peter Hagar, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Clinton County

### 12:00 – 12:45 PM

#### Lunch/Networking

### 12:45 – 1:30 PM

#### Session 4: Economic Development through Energy Assistance- A Case Study on Essex County

As a supplement to a household's income, we all know that energy assistance programs such as HEAP can extend the limited dollars of low-income families, but these programs can also provide an added benefit to the local economy. This presentation will discuss some of the ways that energy assistance funding can contribute to the economic development of a community.

Speakers: Sue Montgomery Corey, CPN  
Christopher Coll, NYSERDA  
Stephanie Snow, Essex County  
Michelle Perkins, AuSable Valley Fuel Oil

### 1:30 – 2:00 PM

#### Session 5: Addressing Health & Safety through Weatherization

In addition to lowering household energy consumption and reducing energy expenditures, weatherization can also identify and address potential health and safety issues in the home. Hear from industry experts on the importance of health and safety testing in weatherization and energy efficiency projects.

Speakers: Carolyn King, National Grid  
Kevin McGrath, National Grid  
David Trudeau, Honeywell

### 2:00 – 2:30 PM

#### Session 6: Climate Change in the Adirondacks

Last November 170 participants representing 30 high schools and colleges and affecting more than 25,000 students in the Adirondack Park gathered at the Wild Center for the 2nd annual Adirondack Youth Climate Summit. The Summit is the only one of its kind in the country and has already led to financial savings and shifts in mindsets across the Park according to Wild Center officials.

Students who participated last year returned to their schools implementing change by creating school gardens to provide food for their cafeterias, expanding recycling and composting programs, replacing power strips with energy smart strips, examining energy saving opportunities by conducting carbon audits for their schools and presenting to school boards about their activities and financial savings.

Tupper Lake's Green Team attended this summit for the second year in a row and will present their findings, accomplishments and ideas in their mission to "reduce our carbon footprint in our little neck of the woods!"

Speaker: Kathleen Eldridge, Tupper Lake H.S.

### 2:30 – 2:45 PM

#### Networking Break

### 2:45 – 3:30 PM

#### Session 7: Program Updates

##### An Update on the Weatherization Assistance Program

The 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment act allocated record level of funding to the Weatherization Assistance Program. This presentation will provide you with an update on the progress that has been made in the program.

Speaker: Michael Gorman, NYS Housing and Community Renewal (NYS HCR)

##### Green Jobs – Green New York

The Green Jobs - Green New York (GJGNY) Program provides New Yorkers with access to free or reduced-cost energy audits, installation services, low-cost financing, and pathways to training for various green-collar careers. GJGNY financing options include the use of alternatives to credit scores to expand credit opportunities for households that do not qualify for traditional lending products, enabling more households to make energy efficiency upgrades.

Speaker: Erik Gilbert, NYSERDA

### 3:15 - 4:00 PM

#### Session 8: This is Your LIFE

While LIFE serves as a forum for discussing energy issues, your colleagues within your community can often provide the most valuable advice. Whether you are an experienced caseworker or a new advocate, take this opportunity to brainstorm and learn from each other.

### 4:00 PM

#### Wrap Up & Closing Remarks Evaluation and Raffle

The evaluation form is the most critical tool in developing the type of event that is most beneficial to you. Please take a few minutes to complete the evaluation form at the end of the day. When you turn in your evaluation, you will be given a ticket for the raffle drawing, which will occur at the end of the day.