



For Immediate Release

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Affordable Housing Leads Charge on Commonwealth's Renewable Energy Goals

Boston, MA — A new campaign, Solar Technical Assistance Retrofit Program (STAR), [launches on January 28th](#) and aims to generate meaningful electricity savings for affordable housing organizations across Massachusetts by increasing access to clean energy solutions, which in turn will support long term affordability and livability for residents. This initiative is being co-piloted by Resonant Energy, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), and the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations (MACDC). The STAR Program has set a target of catalyzing the development of 1 megawatt (MW) of solar projects on affordable housing rooftops in 2021 that would be constructed in the following 18 months. One MW of solar is nearly 3,000 solar panels and would replace approximately one billion pounds of carbon dioxide annually. The campaign will build on recent successes with portfolio-wide solar retrofits completed by three nonprofit affordable housing developers in Massachusetts and is designed to ensure that affordable housing organizations remain leaders in community resiliency and climate solutions.

“Resiliency and housing equity go hand in hand,” says Emily Jones, Senior Program Officer for LISC. “We are working with our partners and communities to be proactive as opposed to reactive to the additional financial, ecological, and health impacts brought on by a changing climate.” This campaign serves as an opportunity to connect affordable housing organizations with important technical and financial resources to make clean energy a reality this year. 10 qualifying organizations who sign up for the campaign will receive a \$2,000 grant from LISC to participate and a free analysis of their portfolio’s solar capacity (with grant priority given to certified community development corporations). The analysis will help affordable housing organizations understand their buildings’ solar potential, identify any barriers to solar integration, and outline the best available financing tools to retrofit their portfolios. Resonant Energy, the leading solar provider for nonprofit solar in the Northeast, will serve as technical expert for the campaign. The analysis that participating organizations receive will be custom-made for each organization’s priorities, energy use, building stock, and financial considerations. Recent examples of Resonant Energy’s solar projects include Madison Park Development Corporation (pictured below) and the NYC Housing Authority, the largest affordable housing provider in the county.

For affordable housing providers that are looking to dramatically lower their carbon footprint and increase their electricity savings the process is straightforward. Once your organization is [signed up](#), LISC will connect with you to obtain additional information about the organization’s building stock and electricity usage. Resonant Energy will then conduct a thorough portfolio analysis, determine your organization’s potential to host solar, and present the options in a comprehensive proposal inclusive of a 25 year cost



savings projection. If your organization decides to pursue a solar project, Resonant Energy will oversee the solar's development and construction with their network of vetted and experienced installation partners.

Help us get to 1 MW of installed solar across affordable housing in MA. We will host informational webinars throughout Spring 2021 to provide more details on the process and how to get started. Visit www.lisc.org/boston/our-work/green-homes/star to stay up to date or sign up now.



Madison Park Development Corporation installed solar PV in Boston, MA

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About Resonant Energy

Resonant Energy is a community-based solar provider that believes that everyone has a right to clean affordable solar. We help under-invested communities take their place at the forefront of the global transition to clean energy. Through partnerships with local nonprofits, we deliver high quality solar arrays for houses of worship, affordable housing providers, and homeowners — regardless of income. Thanks to our network of local investors, we are making solar power accessible for low-income households and nonprofits at no upfront cost, and in some cases, at no cost at all. We currently serve communities in Massachusetts, New York City, and Long Island.

About LISC

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is a national nonprofit working to forge resilient and inclusive communities of opportunity in the US; great places to live, work, visit, do business, and raise families. Since 2010, LISC Boston's *Green Homes Initiative* (formerly known as *Green Retrofit Initiative*) has helped drive resources to Massachusetts's affordable housing sector, aligned incentives to help owners maximize the energy efficiency of their properties, integrate appropriate clean energy technologies, decrease carbon emissions, improve climate readiness and healthy housing, and provide residents with a higher quality of life through these improvements.

About MACDC

The Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations (MACDC) is an association of mission driven community development organizations dedicated to working together and with others to create places of opportunity where people of diverse incomes and backgrounds access housing that is affordable, benefit from



economic opportunities and fully participate in the civic life of their community. We achieve this by building and by sustaining a high performing and adaptive community development sector that is supported by private and public investment and sound public policies.