Report on CWC Annual Accomplishments 2025

The Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC) had a successful year of reaching **237** households with our in-home, DIY, and upgrade programs. Despite funding cuts over the past several years, the CWC has proven our resiliency, diversifying our funding over the past several years to strengthen our organization in uncertain times. Our hard work and success in other programs, such as the Alachua County Energy Efficiency Program (ACEEP) has allowed us to maintain our level of 200+ households reached annually, to help more neighbors in saving money and natural resources. The CWC has maintained four paid staff, three full-time and one part-time.

The CWC relies on local volunteers to reach so many homes each year. 125 individuals gave their time in 2025, donating 3,000.4 hours. With an estimated value of $34.79 per volunteer hour used nationally, they donated $104,383.92 in time toward the CWC's mission. Additionally, with the 214 in-home tune-ups that occurred last year, it is estimated that our volunteers helped to conserve 1.3 million gallons of fresh water, reduced energy usage by 354,598 kilowatt hours, and saved their neighbors over $54,570 in utility expenses. Moreover, these savings are proven to show persistence years later.


October 2025 Tune-up for ACEEP Renter, Sheila, alongside CWC Program Lead Katie Greenshaw

The CWC is part of several collaborative programs to further serve our community and most vulnerable neighbors. The Alachua County Energy Efficiency Program (ACEEP) was approved over a year ago to continue after a second pilot phase. The program evolved to reduce barriers and reach more rental housing stock, with the main change of expanding the service area within Gainesville city limits. The ACEEP program works to help low-income renters in Alachua County with next level energy efficiency upgrades such as new HVAC systems, water heaters, windows, air sealing, and more, while maintaining affordability in rental costs. CWC staffer, Katie Greenshaw, determines eligibility and then schedules and performs tune-ups on qualified rental units. Rebuilding Together NCF (RTNCF)'s staff then coordinates the contract signing, upgrades and contractors. The CWC reached 40 ACEEP-eligible households in 2025 with ACEEP-specific in-home tune-ups.

Since June of 2024 and with support from a private foundation, CWC has been excited to collaborate with Cultural Arts Coalition as part of the Alachua County EMPOWER Coalition's Community Engagement Team to facilitate seven meetings that brought together representatives from EMPOWER's three priority neighborhoods to design and implement procedures for allocating small

grant funds to support energy upgrades on homes in these communities. This successful community engagement effort allowed us to maintain momentum and build trust, lower utility bills, improve safety and comfort and help keep people in their homes. We have seen increased applications from residents of these key neighborhoods due to community events and as some of our neighborhood partners have taken an active role in recruiting applicants for CWC services. The EMPOWER Coalition's Pilot Project grant recently approved by Alachua County in August of 2025 will leverage long-term funding of a Community Investment Fund (CIF) to support this program over the next 30 years. Repairs and weatherization improvements funding by the CIF will be implemented based on recommendations from a Community Investment Board (CIB) that will be formally established in 2026. The EMPOWER Coalition Community Engagement Team and neighborhood representatives will review the procedures and guidelines developed and used so far, consolidate a formal CIB with inaugural Board members, and meet quarterly through 2026 to continue to recommend homes to receive services. Additional funding for the CIF is also being negotiated with Alachua County and other funding sources.

CWC's Projected Goals for 2025 were as follows:

- **Carry out 230 in-home and DIY tune-ups.** We carried out 230 – achieving our goal! Additionally, our Spanish tune-ups have expanded, thanks to multiple staff fluent in Spanish, allowing us to increase accessibility and services to utility-burdened neighbors. Over 550 residents were reached across all of our programs.



- **Train 45 new volunteers as energy coaches.** We came up just shy of our goal, training 43 generous individuals in 2025 to serve their community and the planet. Our 2025 cohorts have been very engaged, surpassing expectations for the number of tune-ups performed per person.



- **Serve 6 local homeowners with next-level upgrades.** Our goal was exceeded, as **7** households were served with upgrades in 2025. County CAPP dollars supported 3 households, and the other 4 homes were supported by a private foundation as part of the EMPOWER Coalition Pilot. The ability to deepen our impact has made a huge difference for these households. See the full story of one household **linked here**, and pictured at right.



Other major accomplishments in 2025, included the following:

The Florida Energy Equity Coalition (FEEC), a Task Force initiated by the CWC with UF IFAS County Extension in 2020, received $189,000 in funding for a two-year pilot program called REACH (Resource for Efficiency, Affordability, and Community Health Program) administered by UF's Program for Resource Efficient Communities (PREC). This year, the funding allowed us to provide resources this year to extension agents in 15 counties where home energy efficiency programs are being implemented or expanded. Funding is included to support the CWC, compensating for training and consulting services provided. We are excited to see what the agents throughout Florida will accomplish in the months ahead with their training sessions, and now funding and starter kits to support them in their efforts**.**





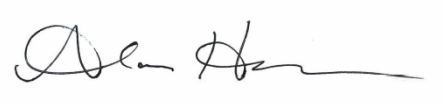
CWC intern and staff alongside Lesly Jerome, PREC Energy Programs Manager, packing kits for IFAS-Agents across the state, July 2025

At right, Extension Agents and members of the REACH Program



From our increase in program accessibility, reaching more Spanish-speaking clients and playing a key role in both the EMPOWER Coalition community engagement and the rental upgrade pilot program for our most vulnerable and utility-burdened Alachua County neighbors, we are so appreciative for our grantors, donors, and volunteers who make our work possible!

In gratitude,



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