



Central Illinois Families with Energy Efficiency Solutions

How CEFS Transformed Energy Education for LIHEAP and PIPP Customers, Distributing Energy Efficiency Kits

THE STORY

CEFS, a not for profit in Central Illinois, launched an innovative energy efficiency education program for LIHEAP and PIPP customers, aiming to help participants quickly understand their utility bills while providing take-home energy efficiency kits to enhance their comfort and monthly energy savings.

THE SOLUTIONS AND RESULTS

In 2017, CEFS partnered with AM Conservation to promote energy efficiency by placing their first order for 250 customized kits.. This initiative marked the beginning of their efforts to enhance energy savings. Over the next seven years, CEFS actively collaborated with the University of Illinois, Ameren Illinois, Head Start, and local Meals on Wheels. Together, they distributed over 600 kits annually, empowering residents with essential tools and knowledge to save energy.

Recognizing the need for a fresh approach, Sara Thomas, CEFS Energy Education Coordinator, took CEFS' outreach to the next level by introducing "Energy Bingo" in 2021. This fun, interactive game, coupled with **Energy Bingo Kits**, replaced traditional energy efficiency presentations, engaging diverse groups from parents with preschool-aged children to senior center attendees. Sara's innovative methods made learning about energy efficiency impactful and fun.

“We usually average 25 to 30 people at each **Bingo Event**,” she explained. “Everyone who attends Energy Bingo receives a kit at the end of the event. Believe it or not, a usual crowd favorite is the furnace whistle! They learn about it during bingo and then they're so excited to see one in their kit.”

Sara and CEFS plan to add at least six more events in 2024, aiming to reach as many people as possible with energy-saving tips, efficient products (like those in their kits), as well as home energy audits and weatherization programs.

EACH ENERGY BINGO KIT INCLUDES



2 LED light bulbs
(23.10 kWh/Unit for LMI Rates)



1 Light switch gasket
(1 package of 10)



1 Outlet gasket
(1 package of 10)
(18.34 kWh/Unit for LMI and Market Rates)



1 LED night light
(18.31 kWh/Unit for LMI and Market Rates)



1 Furnace whistle



Contact us today to learn more. AMConservation.com / 843-971-1414 /   

17 Presentations
PER YEAR

Transforming
Efficiency
INTO FUN



851 Energy
Bingo Kits
DISTRIBUTED TO DATE