



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nonprofit Energy Alliance Saves Local NGOs 'Green' with Green Energy

Silver Spring, MD (May 6, 2013) – Conceived out of an economic imperative to reduce fixed costs for nonprofits in order to maintain programs and services, the Nonprofit Energy Alliance (NPEA)—an initiative of the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, Nonprofit Montgomery, and the Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington—organizes nonprofit businesses in Montgomery County and its neighboring jurisdictions to negotiate for cheaper and greener electricity. Today, we are pleased to announce the results of **NONPROFIT ENERGY ALLIANCE VII**, the seventh cohort of this endeavor.

The 23 participating groups reached an aggregated total savings of approximately \$6,769 in comparison to current Standard Offer Service (SOS) rates. Collectively, they purchased a total of 4.74 million kWh in wind power, which is equivalent to offsetting 7,376,667 pounds of carbon dioxide or to taking 697 passenger vehicles off the road for an entire year. **NONPROFIT ENERGY ALLIANCE I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII** participants arranged their purchase of clean and renewable energy from Clean Currents, a leading independent green energy company providing affordable, renewable wind electricity.

CEDC/RELIGIOUS OF SACRED HEART and Sandy Spring Museum join returning NPEA participants Manna Food Center, the Academy of Hope, Adelphi Friends Meeting, American Dance Institute, Appleseed Foundation, Community Forklift, DC Central Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County, MD, Inc., Housing Counseling Services, Housing Unlimited, Jubilee Association of Maryland Inc., Mental Health Association of Montgomery County, Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, NAMI Montgomery County, National Capital Historical Museum of Transportation, Inc., New Community for Children (NCFC), Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church, River Road Unitarian Church Inc., St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church, The Family Place, Inc., Thurgood Marshall Public Charter School, Two Rivers PCS, and Washington Ethical Society.

Reflecting on the significance of NPEA, Minerva Delgado, Executive Director, Manna Food Center noted, "*As Manna Food Center tries to respond to increasing requests for food assistance from Montgomery County residents, it becomes increasingly important to find cost savings where we can. The Nonprofit Energy Alliance has helped us reduce our electricity costs over the last three years, allowing us to serve twelve additional people for each \$100 we save on energy costs.*"

The participants of **NONPROFIT ENERGY ALLIANCE VII** used their collective purchasing power to not only secure competitive electricity supply at lower cost, but to protect the environment and build a greener economy by supporting clean sources of energy. Formal agreements remain between each of the individual participant organizations and Clean Currents. For more information, visit <http://nonprofitenergyalliance.org>.

Allison Weiss, Executive Director, Sandy Spring Museum asserted, "*Our electric bills are one of our single largest line items! We are grateful that the Nonprofit Energy Alliance gives us the opportunity to cut this expense while also making the museum more 'green'.*"

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About Nonprofit Energy Alliance

The NONPROFIT ENERGY ALLIANCE (NPEA) came together in the spring of 2010. It is not a formal or contractual group, but an alliance of like-minded nonprofits who have joined together to enhance their negotiating power for clean energy and help build a greener economy. The Nonprofit Energy Alliance is organized by Nonprofit Montgomery, the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County and the Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington and was honored to have been chosen as a recipient of *Washingtonian* Magazine's 2012 Green Awards and is the 2012 recipient of the Maryland Clean Energy Center's coveted Partnership Award. Since May 2010, a total of 66 organizations have gone through the Nonprofit Energy Alliance's seven rounds, saving a combined amount of \$542,769 over a one-year period compared to standard offer service and offsetting about 44.74 million pounds of carbon dioxide annually. The impact of these seven cohorts is equivalent to taking 4197 passenger vehicles off the roads for one year.

About Nonprofit Montgomery

Nonprofit Montgomery is an alliance of nonprofit leaders from nearly 100 organizations working to build the strength, influence and visibility of the nonprofit sector towards a more just and caring Montgomery County. We believe our individual organizations and the work we do is more effective when we join together to educate, advocate and create partnerships focused on solving the critical problems facing our community. For more information go to www.nonprofitmontgomery.org

About the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County

Since 1976, the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County has been Montgomery County's designated local arts agency, committed to providing non-profit organizations, artists and scholars with the resources they need to continually bring quality arts and humanities to this community. Our vision is to provide leadership that sustains arts and humanities organizations, artists and scholars and inspires participation in our County's rich cultural assets. For more information go to www.creativemoco.com and for our cultural calendar, go to www.doandgo.org

About the Nonprofit Roundtable

The Nonprofit Roundtable works to build the strength, visibility, and influence of the nonprofit community in order to create a more just and caring community in Greater Washington. Roundtable membership includes advocacy organizations, direct service providers, grantmakers, and corporate partners all working together to solve regional problems. Some signature initiatives include the Beyond the Walls Fellowship, Future Executive Directors Fellowship and the Karel Fellowship for Public Interest Communications; the Capital Area Foreclosure Network; and the Think Twice Before You Slice Campaign. For more information go to www.nonprofitroundtable.org

About Clean Currents

Clean Currents is a leading independent green energy company providing residents & businesses in Washington DC, Maryland, and Pennsylvania with affordable, renewable, wind electricity and solar options. For more information go to www.cleancurrents.com