



Our Public Facing Resources

We have **three** "Shopping for DIY Energy Efficiency Kit Materials" shorts on our **YouTube Channel, @ARKCCL**. We are working with a professional videographer to create a "How to Use the Materials in Our DIY Energy Efficiency Kits" video which we will add to our website. It will be in both English and Spanish.



What about window seals?

10K views

Sealing Power Sockets and Light Switches

1.3K views

Shopping for Energy Efficiency Supplies

1.3K views

These videos have a **total of 11.6K views!**

On our website we have **Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Resources** listed for both people in the Fort Smith area and the State of Arkansas.

[Home](#) [About](#) [Events](#)



[Resources](#) [Donate](#) [Contact](#)

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Resources for Energy Efficiency and Utility Bill Assistance

Looking to make your home cooler in summer and warmer in winter, while lowering your utility bills? The resources on this page may help!

If you live in the Fort Smith area, we invite you to text AR Climate League Outreach Coordinator Herbert McGill (479.434.7332) and set a time to visit the Climate League Resource Center, located in the McGill Center, 521 North 6th Street, Fort Smith. Mr. McGill can assist you with identifying resources, as well as helping you complete and submit your applications.

[DIRECTIONS](#)

Reach Out and Visit Our Resource Center



located in the **Elizabeth McGill Drop In Center**



Herbert McGill,
Outreach Coordinator
•479-434-7332
herbiemcgill@gmail.com
arkcl.org
521 N. 6 St,
Fort Smith, AR 72904



Let's Talk!

For Fort Smith Area Residents

The City of Fort Smith has two Water Utilities assistance programs available for low-income residential households.

Project Concern is a utility assistance program established by City ordinance to provide relief to customers who use water services solely for residential purposes. [Learn more.](#)

Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) is a program developed as part of an agreement with the EPA to help low-income homeowners pay for private sewer line repairs. [Learn more.](#)

Are You an OG&E Customer? Learn more about their home [weatherization](#) and [energy efficiency rebates/programs](#) and free home energy assessment.

Is your home powered by Swepco? [Check out their no-cost energy assessment and energy efficiency improvements.](#)

Arkansas Statewide Resources

[The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#) lowers the energy burden for households by helping with home energy bills— heating costs during the winter and cooling costs during the summer for those who qualify. [Click here to find help near you.](#)

[The Arkansas Weatherization Program \(AWP\)](#) was developed to help reduce energy usage in homes that are severely energy inefficient. The program is available to all income-eligible Arkansans and eligible housing units. The program helps customers find ways to reduce their daily energy usage. Advanced diagnostic technology, such as a computerized energy audit, is used to determine the energy conservation needs of a home. [Click here to find your provider.](#)

Rewiring America

For a deeper dive on federal tax credits and plans for making your home greener and more energy efficient check out [Rewiring America's accessible and in-depth website.](#)

We developed a **Grassroots Outreach Best Practices Presentation** that we delivered at the 2024 Arkansas Environmental Education Association Conference. This presentation is now **linked on our website**.

OUR BEST PRACTICES

WE WANT ALL ARKANSANS TO BENEFIT FROM THE GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION



ABOUT THE ARKANSAS CLIMATE LEAGUE



Collaborating for a Just Green Energy Transition

We encourage environmental justice, energy security, and green energy conversations in low-income neighborhoods. We connect with grassroots leaders, listen, build relationships, provide information about local energy assistance and energy efficiency programs to low and middle income families, and work with other nonprofits to pursue local clean energy initiatives. We're also involved in statewide collaborations.

WE TAKE A HOLISTIC APPROACH

HOLISTIC MEANS CONSIDERING A
COMMUNITY'S WHOLE WORKINGS AND
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS.

IT IS THE OPPOSITE OF A
BAND-AID APPROACH OR
PARACHUTING IN WITH "SOLUTIONS."



WE BEGIN BY SHOWING UP AND LISTENING

Attend gatherings at locations
that are valued and familiar to
neighborhood residents:
community centers,
community garden, etc.
Listen for details of community
life: routines, coping
mechanisms, strengths,
dreams, wisdom and
challenges.
Listen to see if, how or where

we fit in.

Be a friend first, not an "expert."



GOALS OF OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH

Emergence of organic collaborations that improve individual and neighborhood wellbeing (e.g. solar panels on community centers, regenerated community garden). Long-term authentic connections between individuals and entities (e.g. the Climate League and the McGill Center). Clearer understanding of intersecting problems (e.g. food insecurity, energy insecurity) and solution pathways. Empowered community voices. Strong partnerships for sharing resources, ideas, and meaningful action.



BENEFITS OF A HOLISTIC APPROACH



An in-depth, broad understanding of community strengths and needs can lessen mistakes

Minimum disruption; changes fit in organically- not causing more problems than solving

Balanced with all other needs; not forcing other needs to be neglected

Boosts positive outcomes and permanence

OUR APPROACH IN ACTION

COLLABORATING TO
ADDRESS ENERGY
INSECURITY AND FOOD
INSECURITY IN LOW INCOME
NEIGHBORHOODS ON
FORT SMITH'S NORTHSIDE

Community Energy Innovation Prize

Concept Phase



People Power:
Energy Security | Ownership

Three Primary Activities

McGill Center
Solar Panels

Community
Conversations

Student
Engagement

The Arkansas Climate League People Power Team includes representatives from the McGill Center, Antioch for Youth and Family, University of Arkansas Fort Smith, and Citizens' Climate Lobby Fort Smith Chapter

Working Together

The Climate League is Helping With:

- *The Community Garden
- *Applying for Energy Bill and Water Bill Assistance
- *Providing Home Weatherization Starter Kits
- *Getting Money-Saving Solar Panels on the Elizabeth McGill Center
- *Hosting Community Dinners



Collaborating for a Just Green Energy Transition

To Learn More
or Help Out
Text
Herbie McGill
479.434.7332



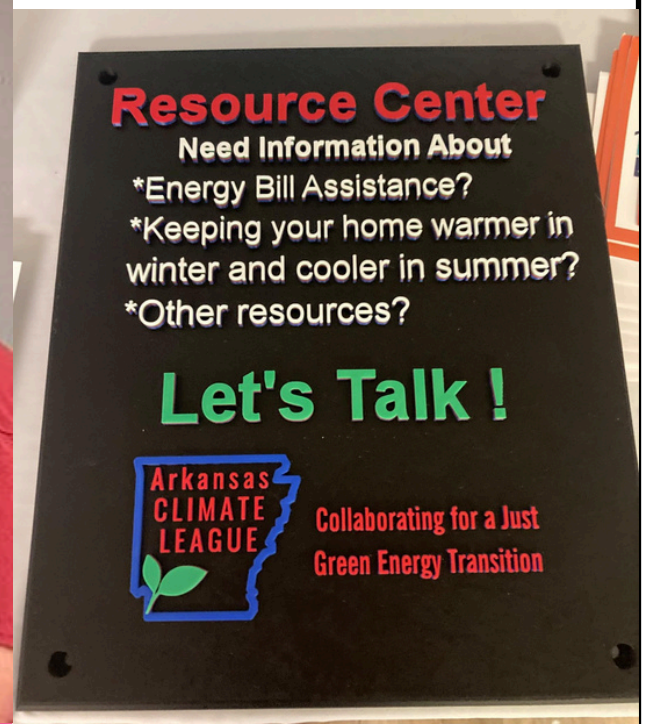
MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY FEEL COMFORTABLE: CLIMATE LEAGUE RESOURCE CENTER HOUSED IN THE TRUSTED MCGILL CENTER

HELPING WHERE EVOLVING OPPORTUNITIES PRESENT: COMMUNITY GARDEN

COLLABORATING - SOLAR UNDER THE SUN INTERACTIONS WITH STUDENTS RAISING FUNDS AND ACTING TO MEET COMMON GOALS: ENERGY EFFICIENCY KITS.

ASSISTING NEIGHBORS WITH UTILITY ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

OUR RESOURCE CENTER IS HOUSED WITHIN THE MCGILL CENTER - A TRUSTED COMMUNITY GATHERING PLACE



ANTIOCH COMMUNITY GARDEN: A RE-EMERGING NEIGHBORHOOD HUB



This up and coming neighborhood hub is another collaboration that we are working on with multiple stakeholders within the community. At this project, our volunteers, work with neighborhood residents, local schools, community groups, and city officials.



HANDS ON SOLAR EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Collaboration: Arkansas Climate League, Solar Under the Sun, Future School.



OUR CHALLENGES

We are a small nonprofit making BIG things happen. We need more volunteers.



Historical lack of trust
Language barriers
Cultural expectations
Participant availability
Potential neighborhood gentrification
Pre-pandemic needs amplified in a post-pandemic world
Poor rental rights in Arkansas

Our Holistic Strategies and Solutions

- Gather a representative outreach team.
- Share decision-making power.
- Have translators available to engage and inform.
- Be in neighborhoods, hearing stories.
- Keep it casual: food and freebies.
- Seek longterm relationships with community leaders, city officials and local residents.
- Network at nonprofit and city events.
- Publicize: social media, radio and handouts.
- Seek grants prioritizing engagement.



STAY IN TOUCH. GET INVOLVED.



arkccl.org



Our team strives to reach our Spanish-speaking community by providing translators at events and offering written materials in Spanish, ensuring everyone has access to the information they need. Through our partnership with the Crawford Sebastian Community Development Council (CSCDC), we successfully secured a Spanish-language version of their weatherization program application in print, ensuring that individuals who prefer paper applications have access to this important resource.



¿INTERESADA EN HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE? ESCANEAR AQUÍ:



El Weatherization Assistance Program para propietarios o inquilinos con la aprobación del propietario y es administrado por CSCDC

<https://www.cscdc.net/weatherization/>

VIBRACIONES DE OTOÑO
Domingo, 20 octubre 2024
4:30-6:00 p.m.
Una Reunión de Jardín Comunitario
¡COMIDA Y MÚSICA!
¡DONACIONES BIENVENIDAS, PERO NO OBLIGATORIAS!

