2013 brought continued success in the form of completed energy efficiency projects and new community partnerships. Reaching beyond the Better Buildings grant that sustained the organization in the early years, the Energy Alliance sharpened its focus on next stage programs that will allow the organization to thrive for years to come.

**GC-HELP Surpasses One Million Dollars in Energy Efficiency Loans**

The Greater Cincinnati Home Energy Loan Program (GC-HELP) has helped homeowners finance their home energy upgrades since its launch in 2011. In May, the Energy Alliance issued its one millionth loan dollar in support of homeowners participating in the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program.

On average, homeowners who choose to finance their home energy upgrades with GC-HELP invest up to 23 percent more in their homes. Their investment not only leads to greater energy savings, but also translates into a greater investment in the local economy and a more significant impact on the environment.

**Forest Park Partnership Drives Residential Energy Efficiency Investment over 18 Million Dollars**

Much of the Energy Alliance’s success has come from its strategic partnership with civic and community organizations. The Forest Park Environmental Program is no exception. With the Energy Alliance’s support, the community was able to successfully upgrade over 146 homes, which was a great victory for the program.

Forest Park residents combined investment in residential energy efficiency improvements generated over 7,500 hours of private sector labor, in addition to saving over 4 million kBTU annually through energy usage reductions. Of more than $18 million invested in residential energy efficiency throughout the region, more than $1 million has been in the City of Forest Park. In October, the Energy Alliance recognized the leadership of Forest Park Mayor Chuck Johnson with an award presentation before the City Council.

**Economic Development Partnership: Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority**

In October, the Energy Alliance announced a new economic development partnership with the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority. As one of the region’s leading economic development agencies, the Port Authority brings a strong history of achievement and expertise in bond finance.

The partnership is working to develop a suite of energy-related economic development programs that will support energy projects for commercial and industrial properties throughout Hamilton County. These programs will provide loan capital to property owners to invest in energy efficiency projects that will drive down operating costs. This in turn will keep the property owner’s capital free for further investment or expansion in the community.

The successful initiation of the region’s first Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program is a top priority of this partnership. Expected to launch in Spring 2014, the GC-PACE tool will finance energy investments through voluntary tax assessments.

“Our programs are not isolated programs. They provide an environmentally educational experience in which residents see tangible results.”

Wright Gwyn, Forest Park Environmental Program Manager
Our Impact
Energy Savings as of December 31, 2013. Some numbers are estimates based on simulated projection models.

Our Work:
3,120 Reduced Price Home Energy Assessments
1,788 Home Energy Upgrades
44 Commercial Building Retrofits
51 Commercial Energy Audits

Our Impact for Greater Cincinnati:
$1,597,974 Regional Energy Dollar Savings Annually
11,192,736 kWh Regional Energy Savings Annually
37,534,200,000 kBtus Regional Natural Gas Savings Annually

Our Impact for Regional Contractors:
$18,725,782 Homeowner Investment in Energy Efficiency
$24,372,928 Commercial Investment in Energy Efficiency
375,000 Hours Total Project Hours Created