



Advancing the Clean Energy Future

Dear Friends,

Acadia Center advances real world solutions to our climate change and energy challenges and offers a positive, ambitious vision for the future.

The year 2014 was truly significant for our organization. In an exciting step, we adopted the new name Acadia Center in October 2014. Over the past 15 years, the organization working as ENE/Environment Northeast built a successful track record of providing highly credible and effective solutions to advance state and regional efforts to promote clean energy and climate policy. The new Acadia Center brand more accurately reflects the organization's geographic scope and evolving approach. We hope you agree.

2014 also saw Acadia Center's work focusing thematically on envisioning a clean energy, low-carbon economy using advances in clean technology—not fossil fuels—to heat buildings, power cars and generate power. The clean energy future set forth in our 2014 publication *EnergyVision* has received enormously positive feedback. It shows how to empower consumers, lower greenhouse gas emissions and improve economic productivity and the livability of our com-

munities. Acadia Center is pursuing policies to help: switch to low- or no-carbon electricity to heat and cool new buildings and power our vehicles; clean up our energy supply by advancing renewable energy; modernize the energy grid; and maximize investments in energy efficiency.

Acadia Center is deeply committed to build this system now, researching and advancing policies that will facilitate new, clean technologies, protect customers and grow the economy. Our efforts to use new, visually oriented communication tools have been effective in attracting audiences and gaining greater support for these needed approaches. For example our *UtilityVision* framework—which builds on *EnergyVision*—tells the story of needed reforms, paired with a colorful poster illustration of a clean energy community future.

The successes we saw in 2014—landmark, nationally leading energy efficiency benefits; the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative cited as a national model for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation; new pilot projects and incentives for electric vehicles; increased consideration of alternative energy solutions to meet grid demand—



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are steps in the right direction. Our work advances economic and consumer interests, whether embracing positive emerging trends—like technological advances that are changing what is possible in our homes, businesses and vehicles—or reacting quickly—for example to show how regressive actions such as an unprecedented proposal to use consumers' money to subsidize a massive new natural gas pipeline risk overbuilding outdated infrastructure. Acadia Center is leading the fight against new fees and charges that negatively impact consumers' ability to invest in efficiency and clean energy. Acadia Center steps in with accurate information and strategic advocacy, and stakeholders, policy makers and media look to the insight that we can provide.

We're grateful to the foundations and individuals whose support allows us to maintain intensive engagement with core priorities and to step up to new opportunities. We hope you'll read more here about what we've been able to accomplish and how each contribution has helped us move toward our long-term vision for a clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Sosland, *President* Elizabeth Carroll, *Chair, Board of Directors*

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Amy Boyd – Senior Attorney

Marisa Bulkeley – Development Associate (started March 2015)

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Kiernan Dunlop – Communications Associate (started April 2015)

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Roger Koontz – Of Counsel

Varun Kumar – Policy Data Analyst, Climate and Energy Analysis Center

Mark LeBel – Staff Attorney

Leslie Malone – Senior Analyst, Energy and Climate & Director, Canada Program Chuck Quintero – Director of Clean Energy Community Engagement (Maine) (started June 2015)

Irina Rodina – Staff Counsel (started April 2015)

Peter Shattuck - Director, Clean Energy Initiative &

Director, Massachusetts Office

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Jordan Stutt - Policy Analyst, Clean Energy Initiative



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- Supporting Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) as a Model Policy
- Exploring Carbon Pricing
- Advancing Alternatives for Energy Procurement and Natural Gas Pipelines
- Increasing Supply of Renewable Energy

Energy production is a leading contributor to climate change. The region needs updated policies across all energy-producing sectors in order to cost-effectively reduce the impact on the climate and local environment. Renewable energy costs are dropping rapidly, a trend that is expected to continue. There is enormous potential for additional renewable energy—both for larger generating stations like wind farms, and for small, distributed systems like rooftop solar.

Our Goals & Approach

Acadia Center promotes policies to level the playing field so that renewable power can compete fairly and flourish. Acadia Center strives to remove barriers in the regulatory system that hinder increased availability of renewable power and level the playing field for clean energy by ensuring that polluters pay for the costs that they impose on society.

In the electric sector, Acadia Center worked to strengthen and expand the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)—for both in-region emission reductions and as a primary policy tool to meet EPA Clean Power Plan standards. Our work also focused on complementary policies to provide incentives for renewables, including renewable portfolio standards (RPS) and fair payment structures that facilitate rooftop solar and other distributed generation. To drive further emission reductions across the economy, we promoted carbon pricing beyond the power sector.





- Supporting Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) as a Model Policy
- Exploring Carbon Pricing
- Advancing Alternatives for Energy Procurement and Natural Gas Pipelines
- Increasing Supply of Renewable Energy

Supporting Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative as a Model Policy

- Highlighted RGGI success with publications like RGGI Progress To-Date and the Path Ahead, which synthesized emissions, energy and economic data to assess how the program is working. Among other trends, the report demonstrated that the first years of the program show emissions dropped even as the economy grew
- New Jersey and RGGI: Potential Benefits of Renewed Participation highlighted the missed opportunities for economic and environmental benefits since New Jersey dropped out of the program in 2011
- Educated policymakers, energy companies, business and industry advocates, consumer groups and other stakeholders on the benefits to-date and potential of the RGGI program going forward
- Published RGGI & EPA: A Model for Market-Based Compliance, which demonstrated how RGGI states could meet the targets proposed in EPA's new Clean Power Plan

The RGGI Program made headlines in parallel with the release of the Clean Power Plan and Acadia Center became a go-to resource for national, local and trade press (stories appeared in the *New York Times, Bloomberg, Boston Globe, Hartford Courant*, National Public Radio stations and more)

- Organized educational briefings and provided technical analysis of additional states' participation in RGGI and engaged with advocates, energy companies and other stakeholders active in RGGI and neighboring states
- Developed materials and worked with allies to help promote climate policy in Ontario, which later announced bringing in a cap-and-trade system
- Coordinated regional advocates, strategy, messaging and outreach to policy leaders
- Served as key press contact and resource to public perception to increase education and awareness of RGGI through media channels





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Exploring Carbon Pricing

- Participated in a coalition working to build on Massachusetts' foundation of leadership in environmental policy by implementing economy-wide carbon pricing
- Supported coalition efforts to promote carbon pricing with strategy development, policy analysis and outreach to businesses and other key entities
- Participated in analysis commissioned by the MA Department of Energy Resources, focusing on interaction
 with RGGI and potential mechanisms for refunding carbon tax revenue. This input impacted reporting and
 initial legislation recommendations





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Advancing Alternatives for Energy Procurement and **Natural Gas Pipelines**

- Took the lead calling for states to assess energy alternatives before committing to major public subsidies for new natural gas pipelines, including a *Pipeline Alternatives Assessment*
- Rallied over 100 businesses and organizations to co-sign a letter on Right-Sizing Energy Infrastructure that called on governors to fully evaluate the array of energy resources that can reduce natural gas dependence while furthering environmental, competitive market, and consumer protection goals
- Tracked and analyzed MA's Low Demand Analysis, which was in part a response to Acadia Center and others' call for further study of potential clean energy alternatives to natural gas





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Increasing Supply of Renewable Energy

- Quantified the true value of distributed solar generation, and developed best practices and policies to assess and compensate for the variety of benefits to the electric grid, ratepayers and society (released in 2015). Acadia Center provided detailed input to a widely noted Value of Solar report for the ME Legislature
- Advocated incentives for renewable thermal technologies—including heat pumps, solar thermal, and biomass in certain applications—in MA and NH, and led the call for these to be marketed alongside efficiency measures (and solar), in energy audits and related promotional materials
- Promoted wind energy procurement strategies, such as suggesting that the long distance transmission lines needed to import hydroelectricity should also be used to integrate wind and facilitate achievement of renewable portfolio standard requirements





- Envisioning an Efficient Future
- Implementing Model **Policies**
- Analyzing Impacts and **Shaping Policy**
- Empowering Consumers

Energy efficiency is the lowest cost and cleanest energy resource and a cornerstone of state and regional energy supply and policy. Acadia Center helped create the policies and stakeholder boards that have led MA and RI to top-inthe-nation investments in energy efficiency. Efficiency investments in leading states have deferred the need for nearly half a billion dollars in new energy infrastructure projects, will produce \$36.1 billion in economic benefits, cut fuel use by 168,651 GWh and avoid 69.9 million metric tons of CO₂ pollution. Acadia Center's macroeconomic studies show that efficiency investments create jobs, keep energy dollars at home, and help to grow local economies.

Our Goals & Approach

Acadia Center's goal is to solidify energy efficiency as a cornerstone of state and regional energy supply and climate change policy. Investments in efficiency equipment like lighting, appliances and industrial motors reduce consumer energy bills and reduce the need for expensive energy infrastructure like transmission lines and power plants. Acadia Center collaborated with businesses, utilities, regulators and others to make sure that state programs were effective. well-funded and reached as many people as possible. Key forums and tools included stakeholder councils, legislative and regulatory processes, independent analysis and public education.





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Envisioning an Efficient Future

- EnergyVision featured a section on maximizing energy efficiency, identifying it as the cheapest and cleanest "fuel," and calling upon states to support capturing All Cost-Effective Efficiency that is less expensive than supply
- Shared best practices and lessons learned from energy efficiency in written reports and presentations at state, regional and national forums
- Built and sustained stakeholder support through broad and well-established networks for energy efficiency efforts including state consumer advocates, customer groups, clean tech industry and utilities, climate action coalitions, faith-based and justice organizations, low-income representatives, community development and health advocates





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PRIORITIES

- Envisioning an Efficient Future
- Implementing Model Policies
- Analyzing Impacts and Shaping Policy
- Empowering Consumers

Implementing Model Policies

- Served as a lead member of stakeholder councils in three states, and worked with other councilors to:
 ensure that energy efficiency investments work toward capturing all cost-effective resources; streamline
 planning; improve programs; and, measure and evaluate results
- MA is top in the nation for energy efficiency and this year was the best yet, with programs exceeding their savings targets. In 2014 the programs produced an estimated \$3.14 billion in total savings for the state, achieving 110% and 121% of 2014 goals for electric and gas benefits, respectively
- CT spearheaded nation-leading best practices and innovations for EE programs, including upstream
 discounting for LEDs, online customer engagement platforms, WiFi thermostats, and the launch of the
 EnergizeCT brand, statewide marketing plan and website. In 2014, residential customer satisfaction was
 94.6% and market penetration of highly efficient LED lighting increased by 175%
- RI Public Utilities Commission voted to expand programs over the upcoming year with the next Energy Efficiency Program Plan, which will produce over \$336 million in net economic benefits to RI homes and businesses, and save 1.9 million MWh of electricity and 4.8 million MMBTU of natural gas
- Advanced best practices for energy efficiency as part of NH State Energy Strategy Process





Energy Efficiency Table of Contents | Clean Energy | Energy Efficiency | Energy Grid | Transportation | Clean Center | 2014 Publications | Financial Summary

PRIORITIES

- Envisioning an Efficient Future
- Implementing Model **Policies**
- Analyzing Impacts and **Shaping Policy**
- Empowering Consumers

Analyzing Impacts and Shaping Policy

- Published Energy Efficiency: Engine of Economic Growth in Canada, which examined efficient energy pay off in the long run with the potential to save Canadians up to \$220 billion. The project team, consisting of analysts from Acadia Center, Dunsky Energy Consulting and Economic Development Research Group, modeled net macroeconomic impacts of energy efficiency solutions across Canada
- Created and shared charts, briefing sheets and infographics illustrating the benefits resulting from energy efficiency investments, including greenhouse gas reductions, job growth and saved GWh of electricity
- Provided written testimony and analytic support for state and provincial policies supporting energy efficiency investments and complementary policies





- Envisioning an Efficient Future
- Implementing Model Policies
- Analyzing Impacts and Shaping Policy
- **Empowering Consumers**

Empowering Consumers

- Created infographics, reports and materials to demonstrate how customers can save through weatherization, equipment updates, and system-wide reductions in electricity demand
- Hosted a stakeholder public forum in Hartford, "Energy Efficiency in 2014: An Assessment and Discussion," which focused on Connecticut's energy efficiency efforts and Northeast state policy





- Envisioning the Future Energy System
- Advancing Policies for Modernizing the Grid

It is time for a cultural shift in in how we think about the energy system. The existing grid is designed for a different era and is a one-way route delivering electricity from massive power plants over miles of wire to homes and businesses. The old way of constructing the power grid is limited to traditional engineering approaches and is short on authentic consumer engagement that has the potential to deliver a cleaner, lower cost energy system. By changing the way we think about our energy system, we can empower consumers, and strengthen our communities.

Our Goals & Approach

Acadia Center envisions a smart and dynamic electric system focused on giving consumers and communities greater freedom and control over their energy costs, managed with the cooperation of utilities, governed by updated regulations that honor energy technology change, supported by flourishing but well-regulated markets and providing a fair and safe system to protect consumers, especially the most vulnerable. The pathway to this system is outlined in *UtilityVision* (officially published in 2015).

In order to make this consumer- and environmentally-friendly energy future possible, we need to change the policies and financial incentives that motivate utilities and drive their decision-making. States have begun crucial decision-making processes related to how energy will be sourced and delivered. Acadia Center worked to influence these processes with analysis and recommendations, advocacy and strategic messaging on what the clean energy future could look like.

Acadia Center worked with stakeholders and policy makers to define and advance reforms to the systems that currently deliver power and the financial strategies used by utilities. This took place at public utility commissions, legislatures, utilities and other public and private forums throughout the region.





- Envisioning the Future Energy System
- Advancing Policies for Modernizing the Grid

Envisioning the Future Energy System

Created *UtilityVision*, a fully illustrated, overarching map of policy advancements towards a low-carbon, consumer-friendly energy future

- Developed educational materials introducing key concepts for energy planning, including rate design, reducing demand through efficiency, and consumers' rights
- Built a broad-based network of education and support for grid reforms among a wide range of audiences, including: large industrial customer associations, clean energy business associations, utilities, regulators and community, grassroots, climate and energy organizations





- Envisioning the Future Energy System
- Advancing Policies for Modernizing the Grid

Advancing Policies for Modernizing the Grid

• Educated state energy officials to ensure that energy efficiency and clean energy are part of states' energy planning

Intervened in major statewide energy planning processes including: grid modernization in Massachusetts; System Reliability Planning in Rhode Island; E4 Non-Transmission Alternatives pilot in Maine; New York Reforming the Energy Vision

- Developed analysis and testimony for rate cases and regulatory proceedings that will determine how customers are charged and compensated for energy
- Voiced priorities for low-carbon resources and consumer rights in multi-state and national forums like ISO-New England (ISO-NE), New England States Committee on Electricity (NESCOE), and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). In these forums, Acadia Center advocates for fair, full, and consistent treatment of distributed generation resources





- Advancing Policies for EV Action
- Cutting the Carbon Intensity of Fuels

The transportation sector produces about 40% of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in our region. Due to reductions in other sectors, transportation is now the biggest source of GHG emissions in our region. Strong federal programs (Corporate Average Fuel Economy, or CAFE) are projected to drive emissions reductions in this sector and many states in the Northeast have adopted California's Low-Emission and Zero-Emission Vehicles (LEV/ZEV) program. However, significant state-level reforms are needed to successfully implement these programs, particularly LEV/ZEV, and additional reforms are necessary to correct for unintended consequences of these programs, notably major transportation funding shortfalls due to reductions in gasoline tax revenue. Acadia Center advocated policies to address these challenges and conducted policy research and analysis to support a long-term vision that comprehensively addresses these interrelated challenges.

Our Goals & Approach

Electrification of the vehicle fleet is one of the key pathways to cleaning up the transportation sector. In the Northeast, switching from a traditional car burning gasoline to a fully electric vehicle can reduce GHG emissions by 60%. As cleaner sources power the electric grid, these benefits will increase. In addition, vehicles running on electricity don't emit any of the local pollutants that come from gas engines.

To seize the opportunity of EVs, the top priorities are to explore and address potential impacts on the power grid and maximize the ability of EVs to serve as a grid resource. Acadia Center advanced solutions to help reduce the upfront cost of EVs, and further explored ways to build out charging infrastructure; and educate consumers on the benefits of EVs.





- Advancing Policies for EV Action
- Cutting the Carbon Intensity of Fuels

Advancing Policies for EV Action

Helped rally a coalition of 67 businesses and organizations urging the Governors and Governors-Elect in 11 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to make policies that support EVs a top priority for their administrations going forward

- Highlighted the importance of electric vehicles as a pathway to cutting transportation emissions in half.
 Drafted legislation in CT, MA and RI, and organized in each state to support strong legislative action
- Conducted original analysis on the cost-benefits, emissions, impacts of low-carbon transportation fuels and strategies, including tar sands-derived oil, electrification, fuel cells, and more
- Participated in the MA Electric Vehicle Task Force and advanced key recommendations such as issuing rebates in conjunction with the purchase of electric vehicles. In response, the Department of Energy Resources began funding the MOR-EV, a consumer

- rebate program and the creation of a Zero Emission Vehicle Commission. Acadia Center became an appointed member of the Commission
- Helped organize the Zero Emission Working Group in Rhode Island, and participated as chair of the Infrastructure and Regulatory Subcommittee and as a member of the other Subcommittees
- Supported and tracked EV pilot programs in ME, CT and other states as a means of testing and advancing the economic, environmental and energy benefits of EVs
- Issued recommendations and testimony on rates, planning, studies and legislative recommendations that would help remove major roadblocks to widespread EV adoption and lay the groundwork for optimizing the long-term system impacts of electric vehicles





- Advancing Policies for EV Action
- Cutting the Carbon Intensity of Fuels

Cutting the Carbon Intensity of Fuels

- Helped write and organize a sign-on letter to then-Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, calling on him
 to reject tar sands-derived fuels by tracking the sources and carbon intensity of Massachusetts fuels and
 enacting a 'no backsliding' policy that would mandate that the carbon intensity of our transportation fuel
 mix not worsen
- Explored possibilities for market-based policies like a carbon tax or a low-carbon fuel standard to help drive development and use of cost-effective, cleaner fuel alternatives





 Providing Trustworthy, Responsive Insights and Data The Acadia Climate and Energy Analysis (CLEAN) Center maintains one of the most comprehensive collections of energy and emissions information in the region. It draws on multiple sources which are cross-referenced and updated regularly, including data sets on energy usage, fuel prices, weather trends, and many other critical variables. The staff engages with a wide range of audiences and issues, to determine what information is needed and the most effective ways to present it. The resulting materials have a strong reputation for being fair, credible and effective.

Our Goals & Approach

Acadia CLEAN Center's goal is to present highquality, timely information through accessible, targeted materials. Staff are constantly improving and re-shaping the analyses and work products to meet the latest needs. Acadia's CLEAN Center produced original analysis to support the organization's initiatives and fielded requests from other advocates and community groups, media, state and local government, business and industry reps and more.





 Providing Trustworthy, Responsive Insights and Data

Providing Trustworthy, Responsive Insights and Data

 Researched and published original insights on energy and climate solutions: benefits and savings from energy efficiency; mapping existing and potential renewable energy; cost-benefits and emissions from transportation fuels; emissions trends and policy impacts on emissions and economic growth

Responded with data to controversial claims and issues like: demand for energy infrastructure and potential for clean energy to meet demand; impacts of rate design; costs/value of solar and other clean energy resources

• Provided core baseline and projections information for *EnergyVision* and *UtilityVision*, illustrated narratives rooted in analytic measurements of the impact of clean energy policies and technologies





EnergyVision: Illustrated narrative that charts a path along four intersecting pathways to reach 80% reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050—a target that experts cite as critical for avoiding the worst effects of climate change. Acadia Center's analysis shows that deep reductions are possible with policy reforms and developing existing technologies for: clean energy supply; electrification of vehicles and building energy; grid modernization; and maximizing energy efficiency.

Pipeline Alternatives Assessment: In response to increasing reliance on natural gas for heating and electricity, New England states are proposing to publicly finance new, multi-billion-dollar natural gas pipelines in the region, but viable, potentially lower cost and cleaner alternatives have not yet been sufficiently evaluated. Acadia Center offers this illustrative assessment to spur more transparent public discussion and debate on considering and using all available options to meet our energy needs.

Energy Efficiency: Engine of Economic Growth in Canada:

Detailed analysis of the macroeconomic impacts of energy efficiency programs across Canada. Nation-wide modeling shows impressive economic growth and job creation potential from clean energy resource.

Cleaner Energy Alternatives to Tar Sands Imports: An Economic and Environmental Analysis: This study examined how the Northeast and mid-Atlantic states could displace refined petroleum products, specifically tar-sands-derived fuels used for heating and transportation, over a ten-year period (2013-2022), and the associated economic and GHG emissions impacts of doing so.

RGGI Benefits Analyses and Program Updates: Acadia Center was a key source of information that quantified the progress of the program so far in terms of policy design, participation, emissions reductions, auction revenue, reinvestments in clean energy and energy efficiency and economic growth

- RGGI Performance to-Date and the Path Ahead
- RGGI A Successful Carbon Pricing Program
- New Jersey and RGGI Potential Benefits of Renewed Participation
- RGGI's Benefits for New Hampshire
- RGGI and EPA: A Model for Market-Based Compliance

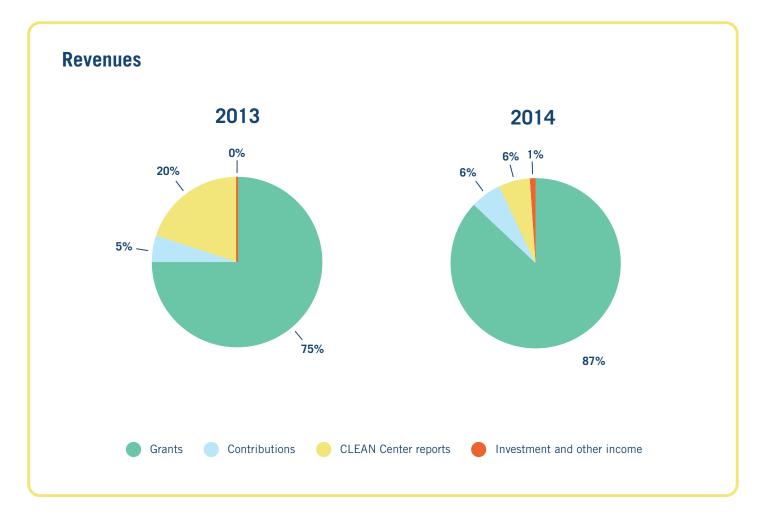
UtilityVision: A fully illustrated, overarching map of policy advancements towards a low-carbon, consumer-friendly energy future. This builds on EnergyVision and demonstrates the pathway for modernizing the energy grid (Published 2015).



Revenues

Revenue Source	2013 audited	2014
Grants	\$1,445,750	\$1,482,500
Contributions	\$97,289	\$102,360
CLEAN Center Reports	\$374,289	\$111,618
Investment and other Income	\$6,802	\$12,111
TOTAL REVENUES	\$1,924,130	\$1,708,589



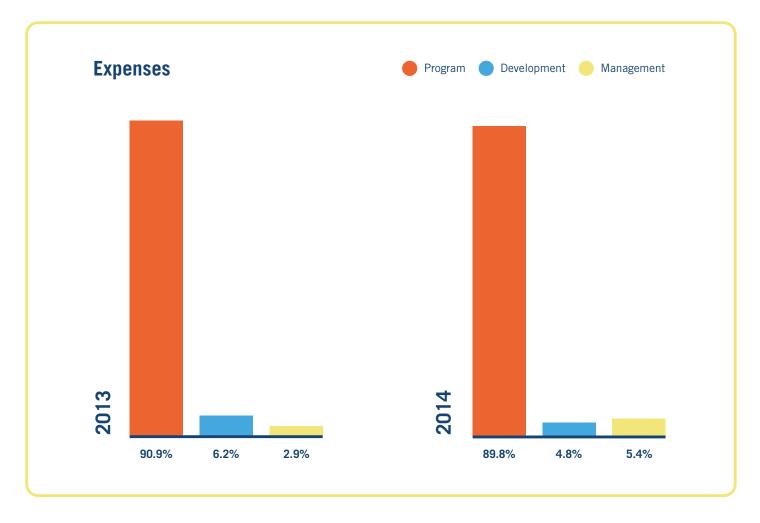




Expenses

Expense Category	2013 audited	2014
Program	\$1,674,820	\$1,373,747
Management	\$52,590	\$82,438
Development	\$114,757	\$72,761
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,842,167	\$1,528,946







Net Assets

	2013 audited	2014
Total Assets (at end of year)	\$2,290,756	\$2,447,551
Total Liabilities (at end of year)	\$42,396	\$18,176
Fund Balance	\$2,248,360	\$2,429,376
Increase to Fund Balance from Previous Year	\$83,409	\$181,016



Financial Support

Acadia Center work is funded through the generosity of individuals and foundations. Each year, we strive to keep our overhead and expenses as low as possible in order to ensure that contributions are used to directly implement programs and achieve our goals. We invite new donors to consider partnering with us in our efforts to advance the clean energy future. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the following for significant contributions in 2014:

- Anonymous Donor
- Barr Foundation
- Common Sense Fund
- Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation
- The Energy Foundation
- The Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment
- Heising Simons Foundation
- Horizon Foundation, Inc.
- Island Foundation
- The John Merck Fund
- Leaves of Grass Fund
- The McCance Foundation Trust
- Merck Family Fund
- New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- The New York Community Trust
- Overbrook Family Advised Fund
- The Porpoise Fund
- The Prospect Fund
- Rhode Island Foundation
- Sharpe Family Foundation/Julie and Henry Sharpe, III
- Wiesler Family Foundation





EarthShare New England

Acadia Center thanks the hundreds of people who support our work each year through payroll contributions in workplace giving campaigns. Acadia Center is a member of EarthShare New England, a federation of New England's most respected environmental and conservation charities. Federal employees can support Acadia Center through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) by selecting #33903 on their pledge forms. To learn how you and your workplace colleagues can support Acadia Center through an EarthShare New England charitable giving campaign, please visit www.earthsharenewengland.org.



Charity Navigator

In 2014, for the eighth year, Charity Navigator awarded Acadia Center its highest 4-star rating for our ability to efficiently manage and grow finances. Charity Navigator is America's premier independent charity evaluator. They help charitable givers make intelligent giving decisions by providing in-depth, objective ratings and analysis of the financial health and accountability & transparency of America's largest charities. According to Charity Navigator, Acadia Center "adheres to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way... [and] outperforms most other charities in America."

