



**ELEVATE**



Annual Impact Report

*We provide access and resources to the people we serve, supporting them to become leaders in climate action.*

**2023**



**Equity through climate action**

# Table of Contents

 Letter from Anne 

 Our Impact Statement 

 Where We Work 

 Our Year in Action 

 Thank You! 

 Board of Directors and Funders 

 2022 Financials 



# Letter from CEO Anne Evens



**Anne Evens**  
CEO, Elevate

Welcome! I'm grateful to be able to share with you our impact in 2023, a year that saw tremendous growth. Many of the climate policy wins that we celebrated in years past started to take shape on the ground this past year, and I'm incredibly proud of my team for leading the way in turning these ambitious goals into action.

I'm also proud of my team for continuing to lift up the work of others, as we did with our municipal consulting work in 2023. By sharing our expertise in grant writing and technical support, we were able to help cities and counties apply for and receive their share of the climate funding that's flowing from these policies. Bringing in the communities left out for so long is a win for us all.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our Elevate!



# Our Impact Statement



By 2024 Elevate will have improved the lives of over a million people and made the properties they use healthier and more efficient.

In the process we will have saved 250,000 metric tons of CO2 and reinvested over \$100M back into the communities where we live, work, and play.

We will be innovative partners in an equitable transition to more resilient cities, communities, and households. We will support a transition that delivers environmental justice, increases health, and builds equity and intergenerational wealth while combating climate change and preparing for its effect.

## Elevate's Impact to Date



**1,113,585**  
people  
assisted



**262,197**  
metric tons  
of CO2  
reduced



**\$117 million**  
reinvested into  
communities

# Transform

Elevate will transform the communities we work in with policies and innovations that promote equitable and just solutions to climate change.

# Deliver

Elevate will deliver people-centered programs which simultaneously reduce household costs, increase resident health, and improve building performance.

# Build

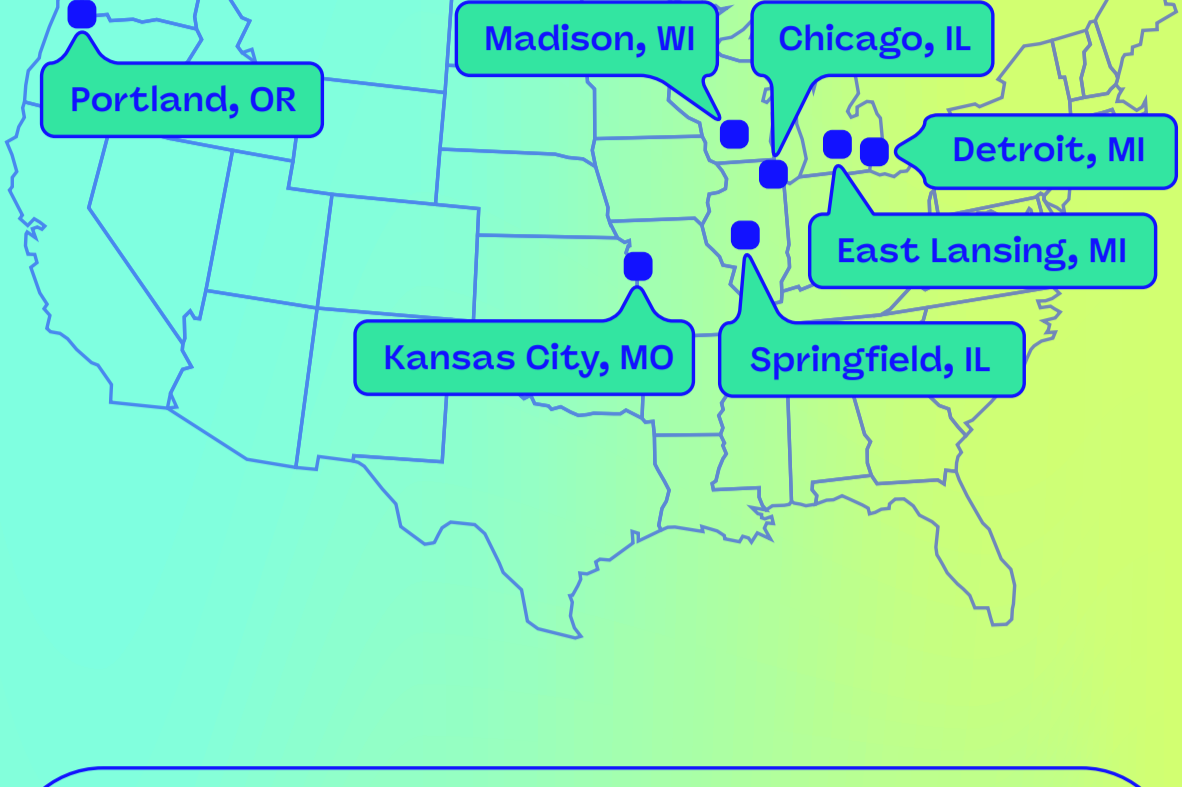
Elevate will build a diverse and inclusive work environment powered by integrated systems which enable our customers, partners, and our teams to do their most ambitious and effective work.



# Where We Work

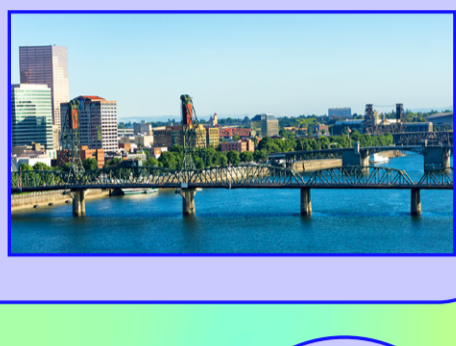


Elevate works in the Midwest and on the West Coast. We combine our national expertise and resources with local partnerships to bring community-centered programs and services to the places we work.



## West Coast

Elevate is providing technical assistance to complete assessments and oversee retrofits for small rental housing through the Oregon Housing and Community Development energy efficiency program.



In California, we worked with the Low-income Investment Fund to provide education and support for child care providers to complete energy and sustainability projects at their centers.

We continued our work supporting owners of multi-family affordable housing with energy efficiency upgrades, from assessments through construction.

In Hawaii, Elevate is partnering with the City of Honolulu to support the design of a decarbonization plan for its affordable housing.



To support a decarbonization program for affordable housing in the Puget Sound area, we worked with Washington State University to complete a market analysis and program design.

## Michigan

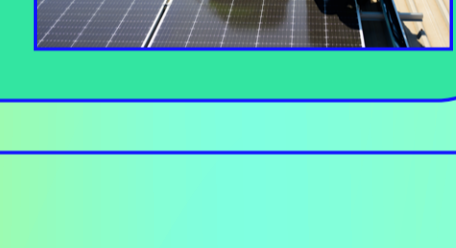


Elevate supported state coalitions that resulted in the passage of ambitious Michigan climate and clean energy legislation, and an over \$85M investment in climate projects.

We worked with seven municipalities across Michigan to support their design and planning for electrification programs, in order to set them up to apply for funding.

We worked with Bryant Neighborhood in Ann Arbor to complete electrification assessments at over 70 homes, and helped them receive funding to retrofit those homes.

We completed the first year of our Contractor Accelerator in Detroit, supporting five contractors with installation training for solar and electric vehicle charging stations.



## Illinois

Elevate completed 20 lead service line replacements through LeadCare Cook County, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act.



Elevate made our first loan of \$10,000 to provide a line of credit to a Chicago-based energy efficient lighting contractor who had previously been denied capital from traditional lenders.

Elevate worked with 20 child care providers in Illinois to complete a lead risk assessment and remove threats of lead paint in their home to protect the children they care for.

A group of 24 contractors completed Elevate's Illinois Contractor Accelerator, and 25 people completed the Clean Energy Workforce Training with eight receiving their NABCEP certification and 14 placed on solar jobs.

Customers saved more than \$12M on their electricity bills through ComEd's Hourly Pricing.



213 solar projects were completed through Illinois Solar for All.

## Wisconsin

We worked with two Tribal Housing Authorities at Red Cliff and Lac du Flambeau in Wisconsin to work towards their goals of comfortable, affordable, and carbon free homes for people living in Tribal housing.



We are helping Tribal housing entities and nonprofit housing developers evaluate their housing portfolio for opportunities to achieve net zero emissions.

Elevate removed all fossil fuels and added solar at two small rental properties in Eau Claire. Each building is expected to reduce about 4.5 tons of carbon emissions and save over \$1,000 in utility costs annually.

Elevate provided testimony in the Madison Gas & Electric Rate Case, and our coalition's work resulted in a huge win that protected net metering in Wisconsin to ensure fair solar deployment across the state.

We provided five training sessions to seven contractors in the Madison area through our Contractor Accelerator with Latino Academy of Workforce Development and Sustain Dane.

## Nationally



Through the Justice40 Accelerator, Elevate helped community-based organizations throughout the country access over \$43M in federal funding to support their climate projects.

Across the Midwest, we're upgrading small rental affordable housing through our Efficiency Navigator program to be safer, healthier, and more resilient against the effects of climate change.

As funding from the Inflation Reduction Act became available, we provided grant writing and technical support to Black-led Midwestern municipalities and community-based organizations to help them apply for and win awards.

Through our High Performance Building program, we completed portfolio analysis on over 10,000 units of affordable housing. We are certifying over 1,200 units of affordable housing to green certification standards.





# Our Year In Action



## Solar Design and Workforce Development

In Detroit, the construction of a community hub is bringing together solar design and workforce development.

Elevate is leading solar and battery storage design at the City of Detroit's Community Center at A.B. Ford Park, one of 10+ community resilience hubs that make up the Eastside Community Network's Resilient Eastside Initiative. Five small businesses participating in Elevate's Clean Energy Contractor Accelerator visited the construction site to learn about solar installation and design.

Building a Resilience Hub in Detroit



## Empowered: Stories for Energy Equity

A video project centers Chicagoans lived experiences to tell the stories of energy insecurity.

Elevate worked with artist Tonika Lewis Johnson to publish *Empowered*, a collection of video interviews with Chicago homeowners telling their stories of living with unaffordable energy bills. The stories featured in *Empowered* helps us to see the effects of high energy costs beyond the numbers and understand what it is like for people to live with and find solutions for energy challenges.



"BEING A SINGLE MOM AND HAVING TO DO EVERYTHING ON MY OWN. I BOUGHT THE HOUSE ON MY OWN. SINCE 2006, IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO AFFORD THAT."



## Housing Resiliency on Tribal Land

An electrification and solar design project with the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Housing Authority is making tribal housing more resilient.

On Tribal lands in northern Wisconsin, Elevate is working with the Lac du Flambeau Housing Authority to reduce fossil fuels and install solar at a multi-family residential building. Like many Tribal lands, this housing is in a remote area and the solar and battery storage will help the housing authority stay resilient in times of power outages.



## Building Bridges for Clean Jobs

Gatherings of contractors, funders, and policy experts create space to listen and learn.

At a time of progressive climate legislation and funding, Elevate is ensuring the clean energy jobs are accessible to diverse contractors. Elevate brought together small business owners, policy experts, and funders to discuss the policy and public funding landscape and hear solutions and opportunities from the contractor community.

Supporting Clean Energy Careers



## Electrification at Affordable Housing

An electrification project in Chicago serves as a model for future affordable housing.

Elevate worked with Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation to remove all fossil fuel equipment at their La Paz Place Apartments, a 44-unit affordable housing property in Chicago. In 2023, we were honored to host the Department of Energy for a tour of the retrofits at La Paz Place, which was one of the first multi-family affordable housing properties to complete a full electrification retrofit in Chicago.

Electrification Updates at La Paz Place





# Thank You!



Thank you for learning more about Elevate and our impact in 2023! View our [financials](#) and a list of our [funders](#) and [board of directors](#) below.

Please subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#), sign up for our [newsletter](#) and join us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#) to learn more and to stay in touch in 2024.

# A Year of Wins!



**Elevate CEO Anne Evens received the Heinz Award for the Environment**

**CFO Lindy Loyet was a finalist for the Chicago Chief Financial Officer of the Year**



**Elevate was named a 2023 Top Workplace by the Chicago Tribune**



# Board of Directors

**Scott Bernstein**

**John Cleveland**

**Susan Estes**

**Anne Evens**

**Denise Fairchild**

**Kimberly Lewis**

**Carlos Martin**

**Margaret O'Dell**

**Chinwe Onyeagoro**

**Edgar Ramirez**

**David Shryock**

**Jennifer Tescher**

**Leah Turnbull**

**Robert Weissbourd**

# Funders

**American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy**

**Avalon Housing**

**Bank of America**

**Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy**

**Center for Energy and Environment**

**Charles Stewart Mott Foundation**

**Chicago Beyond**

**Cinnaire**

**Citi Foundation**

**City Colleges of Chicago**

**City of Ann Arbor (MI)**

**City of Chicago (IL)**

**City of Eau Claire (WI)**

**City of Evanston (IL)**

**City of Grand Rapids (MI)**

**City of Middleton (WI)**

**City of Minneapolis (MN)**

**City of Rockford (IL)**

**City of Tacoma (WA)**

**Clean Energy Group**

**CLEAResult**

**Common Wealth Development**

**Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd)**

**Cook County**

**Cornell University**

**Crankstart**

**CREDMADE**

**Crown Family Philanthropies**

**Dr. Scholl Foundation**

**DTE Energy Foundation**

**Energy Foundation**

**Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.**

**Ernst & Young**

**Five Lakes Energy**

**Focus on Energy**

**Franklin Energy Services, LLC**

**Fresh Energy**

**General Motors**

**Google**

**Great Lakes Lead Elimination Network**

**Green & Healthy Homes Initiative**

**Humanscale**

**Illinois Department of Public Health**

**Illinois Environmental Council**

**Illinois Housing Development Authority**

**Illinois Institute of Technology**

**Illinois Power Agency**

**Institute for Market Transformation**

**Invest in Our Future**

**Jonathan Rose Companies**

**Joyce Foundation**

**JPMorgan Chase Foundation**

**The JPB Foundation**

**Kresge Foundation**

**Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority**

**Lincoln Avenue Capital (LAC)**

**Logan Square Aluminum Supply Inc**

**Low Income Investment Fund**

**Mayer and Morris Kaplan Family Foundation**

**McDougal Family Foundation**

**McKnight Foundation**

**Mercy Housing**

**Metlife Foundation**

**Michaels Energy**

**Michigan State Housing Development Authority**

**Midwest Building Decarbonization Coalition**

**National Association of State Boards of Education**

**National Renewable Energy Laboratory**

**National Resource Defense Council**

**New Venture Fund**

**Northwestern University**

**Partnership for Southern Equity**

**Polk Bros. Foundation**

**Pritzker Foundation**

**Pritzker Traubert Foundation**

**Public Service Commission of Wisconsin**

**Reactivate Devco, LLC**

**Resource Innovations**

**Rush University Medical Center**

**Sally Mead Hands Foundation**

**Skyline Foundation**

**Slipstream**

**Stoneweg**

**The Builders Initiative**

**The JPMorgan Chase Foundation**

**TRC Companies Inc. (TRC)**

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

**Vermont Energy Investment Cooperation**

**Washington State Department of Commerce**

**Washington State University**

**Water Foundation**

**Wayne County**

**We Rise Together**

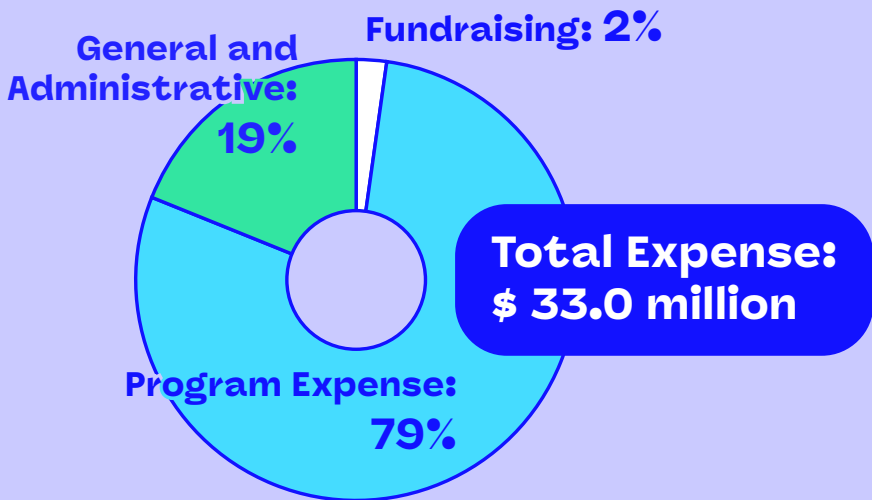
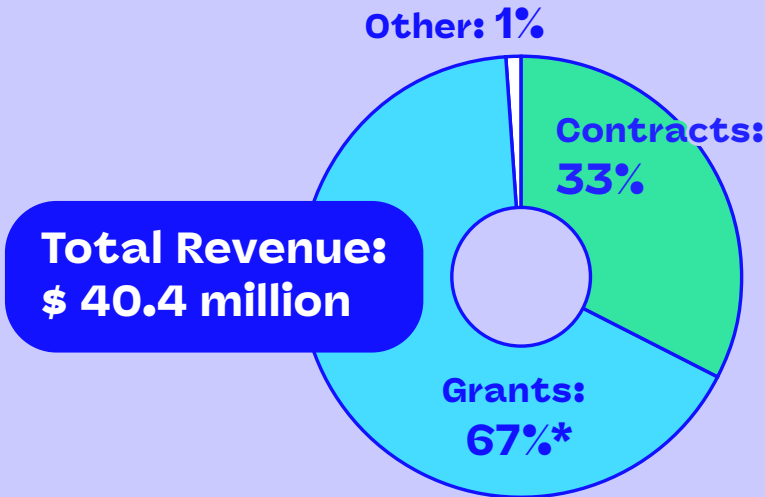
**Wells Fargo Foundation**

**Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corporation**





# 2022 Financials



\*Grants includes \$7.8m in donor restricted funds