

# Organizational Milestones

## Organizational History

- **2003**, Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI) was formed by co-founders Sandra Jones and Peter Adams and a group of area residents
- **2004**, April, PAREI receives IRS determination as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- **2004** Award received by US Dept. of Energy (\$35,000) as a seed grant due to PAREI's innovative approach.
- **2005**, PAREI's model inspires other regional energy networks, e.g. in the Hillsborough area (HAREI), Berlin area (BAREI), and Portsmouth (SEAREI).
- **2008**, A Community Impact Grant is received from the NH Charitable Foundation to complete the "PAREI Tool-Kit" – a video and CD package for sharing the PAREI model with other communities nationwide.
- **2011-19**, PAREI partnered with an array of non-profits and municipalities to implement government funded energy efficiency and solar PV projects (see Awards and Accolades below)
- **2020**, PAREI's Board created and approved the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan and launched the "Many Sides of PAREI" moniker to begin describing its array of programming
- **2022**, PAREI launched the Vision 2030: A New Home for PAREI campaign to fund the relocation of its operations to the corner of Fairgrounds Road and Rt 3 in Plymouth, NH
- **2023**, PAREI constructed the LFP Pavilion, renovated the West Wing Bldg and moved to the Fairgrounds Road campus.

## About the PAREI Programs

- **2004**, PAREI launches Energy Exchange Meetings, Energy Assessment Planning Sessions, Community Energy Risers, and volunteer Energy Advisor network.
- **2005**, PAREI Solar Energy Raiser program launched, a neighbor-helping-neighbor solar thermal installation
- **2006**, Local Foods Plymouth program launched, the nation's first weekly on-line farmers' market
- **2010**, PAREI helped bring the Better Buildings program to Plymouth to promote weatherization projects
- **2017-18**, PAREI started NH Solar Shares in partnership with NH Electric Co-op to install charitable funded solar arrays on donated land where the solar is credited to low-income families' electric bills.
- **2020**, PAREI launched Little Gardens Everywhere in memory of long-time supporter Chris Buckley.
- **2021**, PAREI launched the Kitchen Inspired cooking show streaming on YouTube.

## Awards and Accolades

- **2005**, Received the US Dept of Energy's 2005 Gauntlet Award
- **2009**, NH Public Utilities Commission awarded a \$100,000 grant to continue expansion of community-based, hands-on approach to reducing energy use and installing solar energy systems.
- **2009**, NH Office of Energy and Planning named the Town of Plymouth a Beacon Community
- **2011**, In partnership with Plymouth Energy Commission implemented the ARRA funded NH Energy and Efficiency Block Grant of \$260,000 for energy audits and solar PV installations on municipal buildings.
- **2012**, PAREI partnered with the Laconia Area Community Land Trust (LACTL) to install a \$325,000 solar PV and solar thermal system at their Lochmere Meadows Affordable Housing Development in Tilton, NH.
- **2013**, PAREI and the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District were awarded \$325,000 from the NH Public Utilities Energy Fund to install a 121KW solar PV array at their treatment facility plant.
- **2014**, PAREI led an effort to encourage NH Electric Co-operative to continue its net-metering program.
- **2015-16**, PAREI worked with Bridge House (homeless shelter) and Whole Village Family Resource Center (social services) to secure a \$350,000 grant from NH-CDFA to implement energy audits and install solar PV
- **2017**, Won \$45,000 in Tech. Assistance vouchers from the US DOE – *Solar in Your Community Challenge*
- **2018**, Completed the first NH Solar Shares project on land donated by the Common Man Family of Restaurants in Plymouth, NH. Funding was partially provided by NH-PUC's LMI Community Solar Grant.
- **2019**, Awarded Community Partner Award by CADY – Community for Alcohol and Drug Free Youth
- **2019**, Built the second NH Solar Shares project on roof space donated by the Appleknockers General Store in Warren, NH. Funding was provided by private foundations and local donors.
- **2020**, Awarded a three-year \$57,000 Community Grant from the NH Charitable Foundation to support capacity-building initiatives outlined in the Board's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan
- **2023**, Received a Sunny Award from the US Dept of Energy for the successful NH Solar Shares program.
- **2023**, Completed the third NH Solar Shares project in partnership with Lakes Region Land Trust in Center Harbor, NH with funding provided by NH-DOE as well as private foundations, trusts, and local donors.
- **2023**, Awarded a NH-Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) tax credit grant of \$150,000 to partially fund PAREI's Vision 2030 Capacity Building strategic plans