

COVID-19 CROSSROADS: Achieving Equitable Health Outcomes Through Energy Efficiency

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020 | 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.



KEYNOTE: BUILDING HEALTH FOR ALL

Reilly Loveland | New Buildings Institute, Portland, OR

What does a successful future look like in the built environment if resources were used to invest in energy efficiency, equity and health in dispersed buildings? The New Buildings Institute will provide examples of a roadmap that can be utilized to strategically track progress in this area.

PANEL 1: THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF ENERGY, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, RACE & HEALTH

Yasmin Yacoby (Moderator)

RI Office of Energy Resources

Angela Ankoma

United Way of Rhode Island

Ellen Tohn

Tohn Environmental Strategies

Kevin Kennedy

Children's Mercy Kansas City



The COVID-19 pandemic shone a light on and exacerbated multiple social determinants of health in today's society, including race, wealth, education and physical environment. These inequities disproportionately harm Communities of Color and marginalized communities. This conversation will help to put into context the relationship between energy efficiency, wealth, race and health.

PANEL 2: OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT: MODELS AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Roberta Fagan (Moderator)

Energy Marketers Association

Ruth Ann Norton

Green and Healthy Homes Initiative

Christopher Coll

NY State Energy Research and Development Authority

Mark Kravatz

Habitat for Humanity Rhode Island



COVID-19 has highlighted the urgent need to address health inequities related to many socioeconomic factors, specifically physical environments. There are opportunities to address energy efficiency, health and workforce development goals through improvements to dispersed individual buildings. This conversation will explore barriers to energy efficiency investments in residential buildings and the role of community organizations in implementing efficiency programs and developing the workforce.