



SystemVision

The Affordable New Homes Program

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“ADVANCED ENERGY
GUARANTEES LOW UTILITY
BILLS FOR TWO YEARS, BUT
THE WAY WE BUILD HOUSES
UNDER THEIR GUIDANCE
KEEPS THEM PERFORMING
WELL FOR 10 OR 15 YEARS
OR LONGER. IT TAKES JUST
A PHONE CALL TO GET
SOMEONE OUT TO THE
BUILDING SITE IF WE HAVE
A PROBLEM. I THINK THESE
GUYS ARE GREAT.”

— Roger Chiles,

Director of Self Help Durham



Description

SystemVision ensures the performance of new homes for low income communities. The majority of low-income families spend close to 20 percent of their household income on energy. SystemVision's Affordable New Homes Program significantly lowers this expense. We have designed a process proven to decrease the total energy use of affordable homes by 15 percent, while improving the health, safety and durability of the home. With the help of SystemVision over 1,700 homes in North Carolina have been ENERGY STAR certified with heating, cooling, and comfort guarantees. SystemVision has quickly developed into the most cost effective affordable energy efficiency program in the nation.

Design

SystemVision simplifies the standards, training, verification, and feedback processes for affordable housing developers and builders. The SystemVision process includes five phases.

In the feasibility stage, SystemVision scouts for potential partnerships with local finance agencies, building performance organizations, nonprofit developers and construction teams allowing our experts to identify information needed to acquire new customers and accurately define the technical needs of the project. Upon completion of the field research, SystemVision will tailor the program to fit seamlessly within the community and integrate with existing affordable housing groups.

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During the program design phase partnerships and roles are solidified. The flow of information and funding are defined and communicated.

Once the program is tailored, to your market SystemVision experts incorporate the program into the construction process. During the integration phase, all training, marketing, verification and certifications begin.

The fourth phase of the program is implementation when the homes are constructed. Implementation includes SystemVision experts to monitor quality control, provide ongoing training and support as needed.

SystemVision's final stage monitors the guarantees and provides feedback on the home's performance to occupants, builders, building performance companies and program sponsors.

Key Benefits

SystemVision is a flexible, turn-key program. We provide quantifiable energy savings to low-income families. A SystemVision home offers families the relief of knowing they will always afford to remain in the home they've

worked so hard to purchase. With SystemVision more than 60 affordable housing developers in North Carolina including Habitat for Humanity affiliates, local governments, CDCs, and a host of nonprofit organizations build approximately 400 high performance homes a year. In North Carolina, Advanced Energy guarantees that homes built with SystemVision exceed the ENERGY STAR standard. These homes also have exclusive heating, cooling, and comfort guarantees.

Benefits to Families

Using SystemVision in the design and construction of affordable housing reaps multiple benefits, including:

- ▶ Guaranteed average monthly cost for heating and cooling.
- ▶ Families save up to half on the heating and cooling portion of their bill.
- ▶ Energy Star certification makes homes eligible for Duke Energy and Progress Energy reduced rates.
- ▶ Whole-house comfort with temperatures varying no more than three degrees in the center of each room from the thermostat set point.
- ▶ Long-term durability and affordability of the home.

- ▶ People in the building trades will increase their skills and knowledge with the potential for generating new business.
- ▶ More money will pass through local communities.
- ▶ More energy-efficient homes means a cleaner environment with less of a need for new power plants and a decrease in the production of greenhouse gases.

Creating Change in Homes Nationwide

For almost 30 years, Advanced Energy has been creating change. Through SystemVision, performance-based programs that guarantee both comfort and costs of heating and cooling have been developed. Homes built with SystemVision use 30-50 percent less energy for heating and cooling and are more comfortable. With partners in the building and utility industries, Advanced Energy has demonstrated the success of using SystemVision and performance-based programs in more than 150,000 homes nationwide.

More Information

919 857-9000
www.systemvision.org