

REDI 2008 Annual Report

We're now wrapping up another productive year. The REDI team has been building relationships, working the funding streams, reaching out and meeting needs. These are some of the highlights:

Staff Team – New to REDI this year is the intrepid Perri Kaller, Director of Program Development. Under her management are several Program Representatives, including one bilingual rep for outreach to the local Hispanic community. We've added a grantwriter, and currently we're seeking an Office Manager/Administrative Assistant to look after all the pesky details!

Volunteers - 2008 Volunteer Awards were given to Dianne Carter, Kimbal Dodge, Johnny Frey, Gary Martinez, Dave Mullen, and Terry Wilcox. Our thanks to everyone who helped out this year!

Home Energy Link Program – HELP has been operating for 30 months now in the City of Willits. With the City's support, we served over 300 households with federally subsidized weatherization improvements and new energy-efficient appliances, who could not otherwise afford them. Savings to the first 140 residents served, over the life of the retrofits, comes to \$1,008,201. We expect this number will more than double by the end of this fiscal year (next June). See our second year report at www.redinet.org under "News."

Free Fridges – In a 60-day period, we searched throughout Mendocino and Lake Counties for income-eligible households with 15-year-old refrigerators and provided those 181 applicants (43 in Willits) with brand-new Energy Star-rated refrigerators at no cost. This not only satisfied a PG&E contract with North Coast Energy Services, but also increased the available funding for appliances in our region. The old, inefficient fridges were removed and disposed of properly--saving money, saving energy, and abating toxic gasses that dangerously deplete the atmosphere's protective ozone layer.

Small Business Energy Alliance – This was our second year as a subcontractor to provide energy efficiency incentives to small businesses in Mendocino and Lake Counties. We will continue in 2009 as this program starts with another 3-year cycle, funded by utility ratepayers. If you own or operate a small business, call us!

REDI Haus – This summer, Willits Round Tree Glass installed 13 new, energy-efficient windows! We can already feel the difference—inside it's cool in summer, warm in winter—and now all of the windows open for venting, a significant improvement. Now that this is complete, we are closer to getting the exterior painted. We are starting to catch up with the deferred maintenance. As to ongoing maintenance, Ralph tells us we need new batteries for the off-grid UniSolar photovoltaic system. Our long-term vision is to create a demonstration dwelling that is a model of sustainability.

Web Site – The website has been streamlined and updated. We still need a dedicated webmaster to keep it current—let us know if you can recommend someone! We're at www.redinet.org.

Goals for 2009 – Last February, the board members met and updated our Strategic Plan, as we have been doing annually. We continue to pursue our priorities to:

- build our staff team, advisory board and governing board
- expand our core programs
- create local "green" jobs
- renovate the Haus and cultivate the sustainable landscape
- network, educate and demonstrate renewable energy.

We will meet again for another planning session in January 2009; anyone interested is welcome to join us. We are ready to roll out some of the changes that are coming to America. Let's work together for a clean, green, sustainable future for our communities!

"REDI links people and places to renewable energy."