Seeking Letters of Support!

We need your help! EPH is applying for funding from the Somerville CPA to create a Building Plan to preserve our historical building and ensure the continuity of programs. Write an e-mail in support of our agency, our programs, and the families we serve.

Send to aknight@teph.org by October 31.

Would you prefer to get this newsletter in your inbox?

E-mail info@teph.org and we will be happy to send you our e-newsletter instead. Same content, less paper!

Energy Efficiency Improvements: Small Changes Create Big Impact

On a frigid day last winter, Jason Taylor pointed a small handheld device at the front wall and stained glass windows of our building; the screen bloomed into bright red, purple, and blue. He was using an infrared computer to see where insulation was present and where heat was being lost—and cold air was clearly pouring in through the windows.

Jason works for the Home Energy Efficiency Team (HEET), a small but mighty nonprofit in Cambridge dedicated to reducing carbon emissions. They help nonprofits reduce emissions and save money, while volunteers learn hands-on skills that they can use to weatherize their own homes and apartments. A nonprofit like EPH is their perfect partner—big building, tight budget, and staff who are always seeking creative ways to use in-kind resources. HEET conducted a thorough energy audit of both buildings to determine where energy was being lost, and where it could most effectively be remedied.

Small changes can add up to a big impact. The reduction in carbon emissions is predicted to be equivalent to 15 passenger cars taken off the road for the next 20 years.

On a Saturday in September we hosted a group of over 30 students from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government for a work party. Students installed weather-stripping around doors, caulked around window frames, and installed renters plastic over all our stained glass windows.

(Continued on next page)
HEET Project continued...

Volunteers installed low-flow filters into hand washing sinks and replaced compact fluorescent bulbs with LEDS that use an eighth as much electricity. All work was organized by HEET, sponsored by the Kennedy School, and facilitated by experienced Volunteer Leaders.

Exact savings are hard to predict, but HEET estimates that our savings this winter will be around $3,000. These changes are estimated to save around 1,300 metric tons of carbon dioxide!

Clockwise from top left: Board member Louise Coughlan welcomes a parent for the evening, Board member Dan Thomas talks with guests about EPiHs work in the community, Preschool Director Sheri Rios entertains the crowd during the raffle drawing. Melanie and Mariah enjoy time together outside of the classroom.

Parents, neighbors, supporters, and staff all came together to kick off a new school year together at our Fall fundraiser. The event was an opportunity to celebrate our families and raise funds for future projects. EPiH packed the place! Guests were excited to reconnect with each other and hear from community partners like Jumpstart, the Somerville School District, and Strategies for Children.

Kretcha spoke about her goals and priorities for the upcoming year to improve and modernize the after-school space, to provide more professional development opportunities to staff, and to broaden the base of support so that more businesses and foundations can join EPiH in our mission and vision for the future.

Huge thanks to all of you, our supporters, who were able to attend. Special thanks to Senator Pat Jelen for coming out to support our work and to Winter Hill Brewing Company for generously hosting us!