

**From:** Gabrielle M. Gladding [ggladding@holdenvt.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 10:09 AM  
**To:** Theresa Utton  
**Subject:** HEAT Squad appropriation

Hi Theresa,

I am writing in support of the HEAT Squad's request for their yearly appropriation of \$250,000. I am not only a board member at Neighborworks but also a homeowner who has used the HEAT Squad's services when I had an energy audit done on my home. The professionalism of the HEAT Squad staff that showed up to do the energy audit was top notch, and they patiently answered all of my questions and reviewed the results with me afterwards. I have personally recommended their services to several of my friends and family members, because in addition to the HEAT Squad serving Addison, Rutland, Bennington, Windham, and Windsor counties, their work benefits homeowners by helping them to save money on their fuel bills and energy costs, which create more comfortable homes and allow homeowners to have extra money in their pockets, something we could all benefit from. I would strongly recommend the funding for the HEAT Squad be approved, as their services are available to all income levels, but truly benefit those at the lower and middle income levels; people who on their own may not be able to afford the cost of an audit and certainly cannot afford the cost of the renovations to make the improvements an audit finds necessary. The HEAT Squad goes beyond just energy audits, their team can assist homeowners with audits (of course), but more importantly, the education of what an audit means, how to access state rebates for improvements, objective advice from a trusted professional and access to in house lending should loans be needed for repairs. The HEAT Squad is an invaluable resource for Vermonters and as we encounter a good old fashioned Vermont winter, I think of the many people in my community and the surrounding communities that stand to lose a fantastic resource if the funding for the HEAT Squad is not approved. There truly is no other program in the State like the HEAT Squad.

Thank you for your time, and your support for The HEAT Squad.

Sincerely,  
Gabe Gladding

*Gabrielle M Gladding*  
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