

Energy Coaching Network Analysis

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Cara Robeck
Energy Action Network
Deputy Director & Network Manger

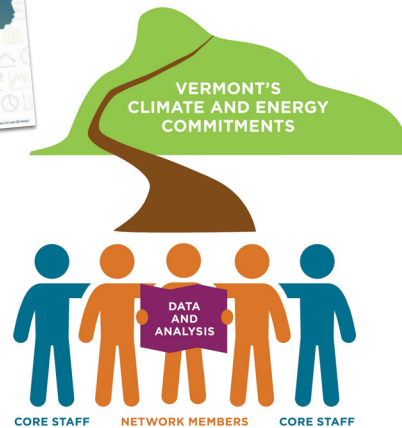
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EAN is two things

EAN Organization

The organization's mission is to support Vermont in making energy and climate decisions that are grounded in high-quality data and analysis, and collaboratively developed for effective and durable progress.



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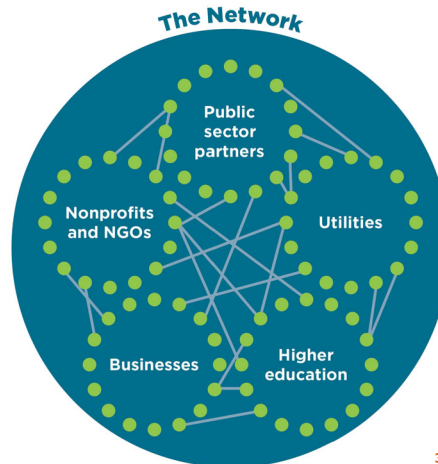
EAN is two things



Context - EAN Network Action Teams

EAN Network

The Network's mission is to achieve Vermont's climate and energy commitments in ways that create a more just, thriving, and sustainable future.



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- Weatherization at Scale
- Climate Workforce
- Thermal Energy Networks
- Clean and Affordable Vehicles
- Energy Coaching Network**
- Heat Pump Working Group
- Municipal Energy Code



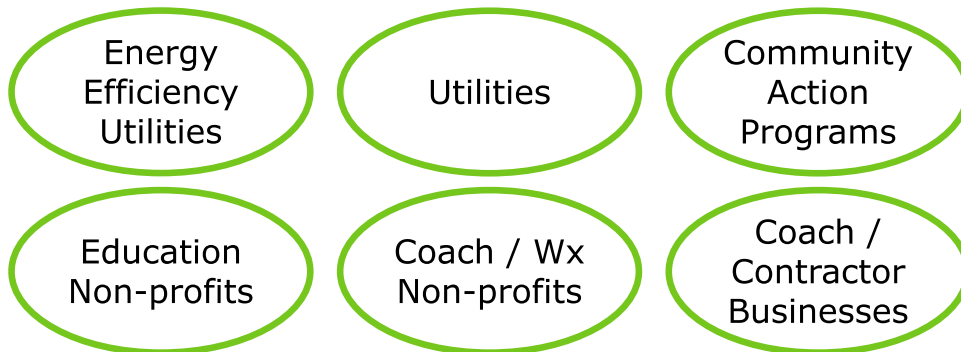
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Exploring the question:

Would Vermont residents benefit from a statewide network of local energy coaches, utilizing volunteers?

Conducted 21 interviews



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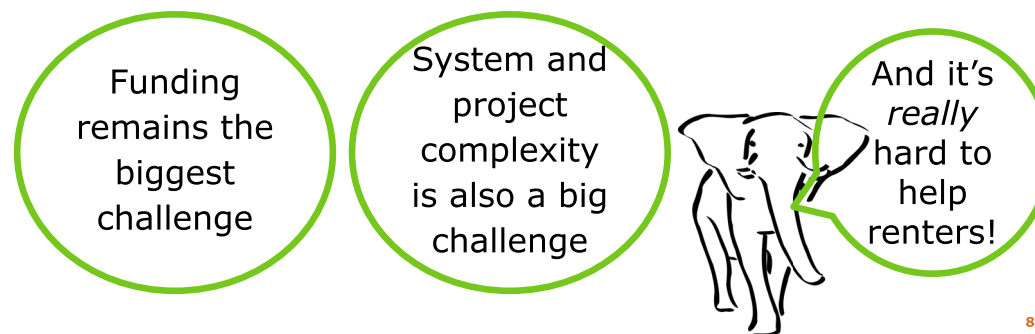
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Interview Topics

- Scope and scale of work done by their organization
- Challenges homeowners, property owners, and renters face in completing clean energy projects
- Gaps for helping people complete energy projects that reduce or eliminate fossil fuel use
- Whether households would benefit from the creation of a network of local energy coaches, and the roles of volunteers
- The role their organization might play in such a network

Additional support is needed to help people complete clean energy / efficiency projects.



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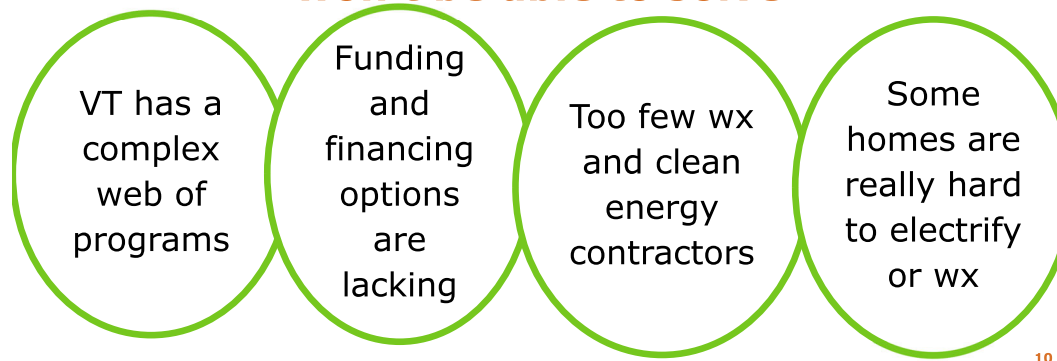
Volunteers from the community can help!

But they can also do more harm than good:

- if they give incorrect technical advice!
- if they give incorrect information about programs
- if their work further complicates a fragmented and confusing system

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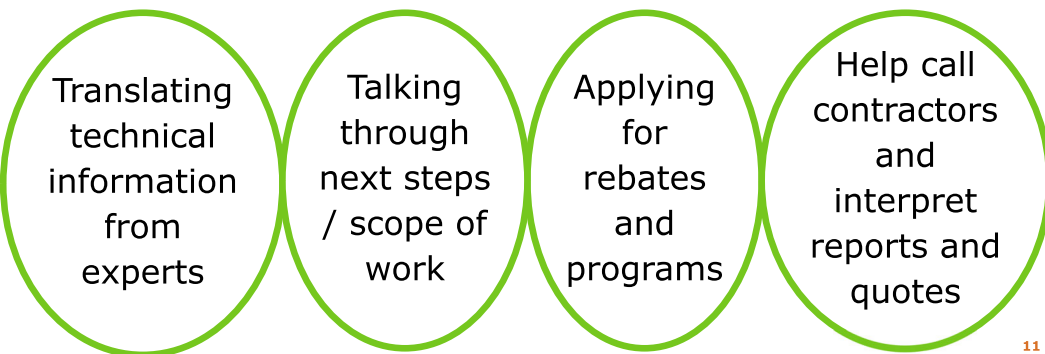
Things we need to understand, but coaching won't be able to solve



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Coaches add significant value with **Project Management**



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Coaches add significant value with **Communications**



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Social (emotional) Support

Volunteers need to be trained in social skills and sales as well as technical skills.

"This process is a combination of sales and counseling."

"You never know what kind of living situation you will be walking into."

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A volunteer network would need

- on-going training (technical and programs)
 - funding
 - ongoing support
- coordination across programs

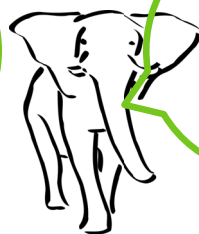
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Additional support is needed to help people complete clean energy / efficiency projects.

Funding remains the biggest challenge

System and project complexity is also a big challenge



And it's *really* hard to help renters!

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