



**GREEN OPPORTUNITIES** is dedicated to improving lives, communities, and the health of the planet through innovative green-collar job-training and placement programs. GO works to empower low-income neighborhoods in Asheville and increase access to the green economy by preparing residents for well-paying jobs, completing hands-on sustainable projects, and linking neighborhood residents to jobs and other community resources that lead to greater empowerment.

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## Donate

Please consider making a donation to: Green Opportunities, 216B Livingston St., Asheville, NC 28801 (828) 398-4158

## Program News



### Trainees Tour ASU

Trainees toured ASU's renewable energy and sustainable design projects as part of GO's revamped training program. Some of the most notable stops were the solar decathlon workshop for the Europe 2014 contest, the grand 100-kilowatt, community-scale wind turbine, and ASU's solar panel station.

The purpose of the tour was to raise awareness about renewable energy initiatives and expose the trainees to alternative education paths.

#### For more information on:

##### Built Environment

Contact Josh Littlejohn, [josh@greenopportunities.org](mailto:josh@greenopportunities.org)

##### Kitchen Ready

Contact Mark Rosenstein, [mark@greenopportunities.org](mailto:mark@greenopportunities.org)

### W.C. Reid Center

GO is interested in gathering stories on the history of the W.C. Reid Center and the Southside Community.

GO is calling on all Asheville natives, especially Southside Community residents, to lend your voice in establishing an accurate history of the W.C. Reid Center and surrounding area, including pieces on the Livingston St. School/integration, the community center post-Livingston St. School, Reid's work in the community, the thriving business district here, and the disastrous effects of urban renewal.

If readers have ideas, materials, stories, pictures, or other resources to offer, contact DeWayne Barton, [Dwayne@greenopportunities.org](mailto:Dwayne@greenopportunities.org).

## SunPower Corporation Donates Over 150kW to GO!

By Josh Littlejohn

In October 2013 Green Opportunities received a generous donation of Solar Panels from SunPower Corporation. SunPower is a US-based manufacturer and installer of the most efficient Photovoltaic (PV) panels available worldwide.

The 100kW of panels are in "scratch and dent condition" meaning that they are slightly damaged yet fully functional. The donation is a substantial step towards installing operable renewable energy systems on local projects, including an estimated 100kW rooftop array on the W.C. Reid Center.

We will use these systems to provide educational and employment opportunities for individuals in the communities we serve as well as to increase Western North Carolina's installed renewable energy capacity.

Several partners are currently working with GO in support of these goals, including FLS Energy, The Appalachian Institute for Renewable Energy (AIRE), The City of Asheville Office of Sustainability, and Appalachian State University.



## Building Performance Services

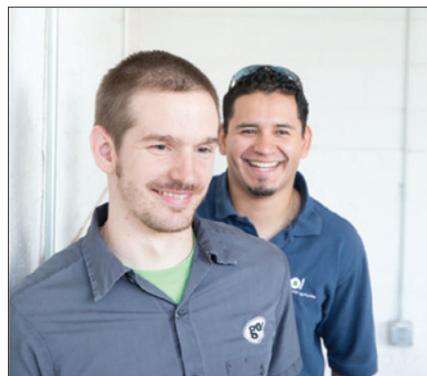
GO Energy Team offers building performance services for residential and commercial sectors. Our team consists of trained and certified professionals in the building performance industry.

#### Our services include:

- Comprehensive Energy Audits
- Professional Building Envelope Solutions
- Insulation Installation
- Weatherization
- Encapsulated Crawlspace Installation
- Green Home Renovation and Repair
- Moisture Control

#### Why Building Performance?

According to the Building Performance Institute, over 128 million homes alone have been constructed before modern building and energy codes were established. As a consequence, buildings will have many inherent performance problems often overlooked, including but not limited to indoor air quality, moisture, durability, and energy consumption.



These problems can cause uncomfortable living space, exorbitant utility bills, and even reduce the functional life of the building.

#### What can the GO Energy Team do for you?

Every building is unique and will have its own performance challenge. We custom design each comprehensive building performance audit for your property. We then discuss with you the most cost effective options to increase your home or building's performance. Once we collaboratively design what works best for your needs, our Energy Team technicians implement the solutions.

We strive to have the best trained and certified technicians on staff. Our technicians are trained and certified graduates of GO Training Team and GO Forward. By hiring us for your building performance needs, you are also supporting economic justice in the green collar industry.

#### To make an appointment with us:

Contact Doug Sharkey, (828) 398-4168, [doug@greenopportunities.org](mailto:doug@greenopportunities.org).

## GO 2013 Program Highlights

- 23 Community service projects completed
- 29 Community education/outreach events held
- 13 New community and strategic partners recruited
- 88 Members participated in trainings
- 78 Members secured employment or paid apprenticeships
- 10 Members entered post-secondary educational programs
- 125 Technical certifications received



### GO Success Story

Curtis Dawkins has been a life-long resident of the Southside neighborhood. He came to GO in 2012 after struggling to find consistent work. It became clear as soon as he entered the program that he was driven towards more than just employment – Curtis came to learn and progress as an individual.

He proved to be one of the most committed people in his class, spending extra time volunteering and studying course content. In doing so, he developed an interest in electrical work that he brought with him when he was hired on with the Reid Center Project.

Currently working with A-American Electric on the renovation, Curtis is thriving and plans to attend AB-Tech to study electrical work.

**"There's a reason Curtis is here. He learns so fast that he is doing what needs to be done before I have to ask him. I couldn't be happier with his attitude and hard work."**

~ Andy Fro,  
A-American Electric