

Success Story: Suddarth's Home Fairfax, VA

CHP Energy Solutions

Dominion Energy EnergyShare

Tran Energy Services
Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church

### The Suddarth's Story

Lisa and Ron Suddarth settled into their Fairfax townhome in 2006, but about 4 years ago their heat pump stopped working and they lived without heat or air conditioning while navigating health issues. While Lisa managed her health conditions and Ron attended to her needs the items around their home began to pile up. One day they received their real estate tax renewal from Fairfax County and included was a flyer from Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church (AFF). Lisa decided it was time to reach out for help and contacted Rebuilding Together. Rebuilding Together is a non-profit that uses a volunteer workforce to provide home repairs and health and safety measures. A team of 10 volunteers from Rebuilding Together AFF came to the Suddarth's home and installed stair rails to assist getting up and down the stairs, a life-changing improvement, along with grab bars, CO & smoke alarms, LED lightbulbs, and fire extinguishers.

"We hadn't had heat or air in about 4 years. The unit was 34 years old. Summer was horrid. We had space heaters all over the house, it wasn't energy efficient.

Now our home feels great and has made a huge improvement with our health."

- Ron Suddarth Fairfax, Virginia

The Rebuilding Together AFF team connected the Suddarths with Dinh Tran from Tran Energy Services to evaluate their inoperable HVAC system. Tran Energy Services is a subcontractor for CHP Energy Services and works with many of the programs Energy Solutions provides. One of these programs is the Dominion Energy EnergyShare program that provides energy efficiency improvements to qualified families in need. Late summer of 2022, EnergyShare launched a campaign called 40 Homes in 40 Days to highlight the program's 40th anniversary. The Suddarth's home was selected as one of the marquee homes in the campaign which allowed for additional beautification improvements to occur as well.

Tran Energy Services scheduled a site visit with the Suddarths to perform a whole home energy audit. The audit identifies energy efficiency measures that can be performed or installed at the home. After the audit, Tran Energy Services went to work replacing the 34-year-old HVAC system with a new high efficiency heat pump system. Though the immediate need was replacing the inoperable HVAC system, Tran Energy Services completed additional work to make the home more energy efficient, safe, and comfortable including duct work modifications to improve air flow, air sealing to tighten the building envelope, adding 12 inches of insulation in the attic, and replacing two bath exhaust fans to help with moisture control.

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All the work completed by Tran Energy Services was made possible by Dominion Energy and their EnergyShare program. For qualifying customers, the energy efficiency improvements are provided at no-cost to the customer. Dominion Energy has implemented this program for 40 years and has assisted thousands of individuals and families in need. The objective of the campaign was for the network of Virginia Weatherization Service Providers to identify 40 homes throughout Dominion Energy's service territory. Once identified, audits were scheduled, and then work began shortly after. While all 40 homes were served in the 40-day window, select homes in the campaign were designated marquee homes, where Dominion Energy employees volunteered to help with additional projects on the Suddarth's home. Some of these projects included exterior painting, landscaping, fence repair, shed leveling, and laying pathway pavers.

CHP Energy Solutions provides services through EnergyShare for Dominion Energy in multiple localities throughout Virginia. CHP Energy Solutions' role at the Suddarth's home was to project manage, coordinating services provided by Rebuilding Together AFF, Tran Energy Services, and Dominion Energy volunteers while connecting and working with all parties to ensure a smooth process for the Suddarths.

Through the strong partnerships between CHP Energy Solutions, Dominion Energy, Rebuilding Together AFF, and Tran Energy Services nearly 25 volunteers came together to help improve the energy efficiency and health & safety of Lisa and Ron's home. These partnerships are what allow us as a community to reach more people in need and provide the most benefit to a home. CHP Energy Solutions is proud to partner with organizations that care about the people in our communities and that are willing to help our most vulnerable residents. CHP Energy Solutions is the largest weatherization service provider in Virginia and operates 23 programs in 95 localities, while also partnering with utilities to administer and implement their qualifying energy efficient programs.

Lisa and Ron are forever grateful for these programs and to everyone who helped make their home safer, more comfortable, and more energy efficient. Lisa says, "We can't express our gratitude enough. We've never asked for help before but are so glad we did."









Dominion Energy employee volunteers repair a fence at the Suddarth's home.



More Dominion Energy employee volunteers grade, lay pathway pavers and level a shed.



Tran Energy Services and CHP Energy Solutions working together.



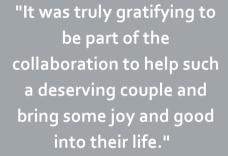
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### **Energy Efficiency Improvements**

Whole Home Energy Audit
New HVAC System
Insulation
Air Sealing
Duct Sealing
LED Light Bulbs



- Doug Schorr Program Manager CHP Energy Solutions





### **Beautification Improvements**

Brush Removal
Fence Repair
Shed Leveling
Deck Stairs Repair
Pathway Pavers
Exterior Painting

"It's amazing to see how truly effective it can be when multiple organizations collaborate with each other to achieve a common goal.

Together we provided meaningful upgrades to the Suddarth's home that make it safer, more comfortable, and improved their energy efficiency so that they can continue to remain in their family home for the foreseeable future."

- Dinh Tran Owner Tran Energy Services





#### **Health & Safety Improvements**

CO Detectors
Smoke Detectors
Fire Extinguishers
Stair Rails
Grab Bars
GFCI Receptacles

"So many of the Rebuilding
Together client's homes pose
multiple challenges. This is a
shining example of multiple
partners collaborating to make
their home safe, healthy, and
energy efficient."

- Don Ryan Director of Partnerships Rebuilding Together AFF



Tran Energy Services completed a full energy audit on the home and installed a new HVAC system.



Collaboration coming together! Members from CHP
Energy Solutions, Dominion Energy, Rebuilding Together
AFF, and Tran Energy Services.



Dominion Energy even brought a bucket truck to help with some exterior painting.

