

2020 - 2021 Pandemic Report

The Power to make a difference



Rural Renewable Energy Alliance

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Dear Friends:

March 6th and 7th, 2020 were two wonderful days for RREAL. We held RREAL's first-ever All Staff and Board Strategic Planning Retreat at the Northland Arboretum in Brainerd. We re-affirmed our dedication to using solar to reduce poverty and decided to focus our future efforts on work in Central and Northern Minnesota after we fulfilled our commitments to several far-flung projects.

One week later we closed the office and – along with the rest of the world – watched the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic unfold.

Awash in uncertainty, we were not deterred. We are proud to report that we have successfully completed our pandemic pivot by fulfilling our commitments in Liberia, Uganda, and Kansas while turning our attention to projects in Minnesota.

We are sincerely grateful to each of you for making this work possible during a truly difficult time for our communities, our nation, and the entire world.

Here are some highlights from the last two years.



The staff at Country View Elementary in Winfield, KS celebrate the completion of the Max Sunshine Project, a DOE funded partnership with Decent Energy.



Four of eight 2021 White Earth Interns. From left to right: Jose Morena, Grace Roberts, Gerilyn Lopez, & Gwe Gasco.



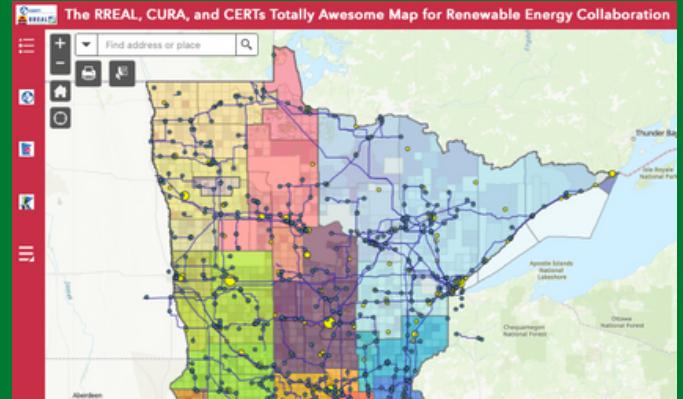
A 40 Kw system at White Earth Tribal and Community College in Mahnomen, MN. This system was built as the first cohort of solar interns observed & learned.



The new 27 kW system & power house at Curran Hospital in Liberia, powers critical functions – the ER, ICU, & ORs – with battery back-up.



Habitat homeowner Cathy Johnson and her daughter at their home in Crosby with former RREAL staffers Martha Risedorf and Kyle Tschida.



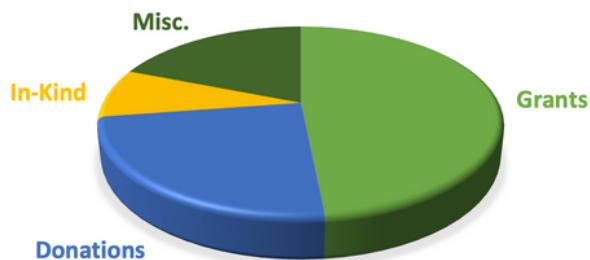
RREAL partnered with CERTS & the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs at the U of MN to create a MN map with various overlays to help with solar development.



RREAL's K-8 Solar Curriculum was created in 2020 and updated in 2021 with help from CERTS and feedback from science teachers. It's now ready for widespread use as more MN schools seek new Solar on Schools funding approved this year.



A 40 Kw system at the Boys & Girls Club in Naytahwaush on the White Earth Reservation. Together with White Earth partners & installation from REAL Solar, we have installed a total of 312 kW of solar power. In 2021 alone, we added 200kW in five different 40kW arrays at tribal facilities.



2020 Revenue Breakdown

Grants	\$297,255
Donations	\$148,524
In-Kind	\$51,514
Miscellaneous	\$116,538
Total	\$613,831

As 2021 comes to a close, we are busy planning some really great work with a fantastic group of BIPOC partners. We truly look forward to the work ahead of us: expanding solar education opportunities at tribal colleges, building solar greenhouses in five rural MN locations, adding solar to more Habitat homes, pursuing BIPOC solar workforce development, and so much more.

Generosity from individuals, foundations, and public programs makes our work possible. Thank you for believing that we have the power to make a difference. Solar is the future, and we are thrilled to be building that future with friends like you.

Sincerely, John Vaughn and the team at RREAL

**RREAL's LIFETIME
Solar Impact Since
Our Founding
in 2000:
4.8 Megawatts**

**2020 Solar Impact:
132kW**

**2021 Solar Impact:
292 kW**