

# RENEWAL

A POAH MIDWEST NEWSLETTER



## Solar Power Brings Savings to POAH Residents and Properties

***Savings and environmental benefits available to all Illinois residents who meet income qualifications***

Approximately 100 residents of POAH-owned and managed buildings are enjoying the rewards and savings of a unique and ground-breaking arrangement between POAH and a new solar farm in Kankakee, IL.

POAH is an “anchor” subscriber at Gar Creek Solar, a 40-acre solar farm on former agricultural land that produces up to 3.5 megawatts of electricity. As an anchor subscriber, POAH is purchasing 10% of the power generated at Gar Creek to benefit two senior apartment complexes – South Suburban Apartments in Harvey, IL, and the Salud Center In South Chicago.



The arrangement should reduce the cost of electricity in each building by 50%, for the buildings' common spaces – hallways, elevators, community rooms, exterior lighting, etc. – over the next 15 years, while contributing to the expansion of solar energy production in the region.

Residents, who have their own utility accounts at their apartments, were given priority to enroll in ComEd's “Give-A-Ray” program which allows low-income individuals to purchase discounted solar electricity, with no enrollment fees.

“The Gar Creek community solar project provides a unique opportunity for qualified customers to access clean, solar energy and realize meaningful savings on their energy bill,” said Nathaniel Dick, POAH's senior director for energy and capital projects.

Gar Creek was developed through the Illinois Solar For All program, a statewide initiative aimed at increasing energy savings for qualified residents, non-profits, and public facilities within environmental justice areas and low-income census tracts.

Enrollment remains open for anyone in ComEd's service territory with a household income less than 80% of the area median income, or roughly \$44,000 for a single person and \$63,000 for a four-person household. Those wishing to participate in the program should contact Felicia Dawson at [Fdawson@poahcommunities.com](mailto:Fdawson@poahcommunities.com) or Bill Eager at [beager@poah.org](mailto:beager@poah.org).