



# Alachua County Energy Efficiency Program

## ACEEE Energy Equity for Renters Technical Assistance Grant

Office of Sustainability, Equity, & Economic  
Development Strategies

# Today: ACEEE Technical Assistance Grant

## Presentation Overview

- Brief ACEEP Overview and Update
- Introduction to ACEEE
- Description of ACEEE Energy Equity for Renters program
- Proposed Deliverables and Timeline for project
- Staff Recommendations



Alachua County,  
Florida

# ACEEP Overview

Pays for up to \$15,000 in energy efficiency upgrades in rental units in the unincorporated areas of Alachua County and the smaller municipalities.

Award is in the form of contracted upgrades to property owner, who in turn commits to a period of maintaining unit's affordability.

A stylized map of Alachua County, Florida, featuring a sun, trees, and a house. The text "Alachua County, Florida" is overlaid on the map.

Alachua County,  
Florida

# ACEEP = Affordable Housing

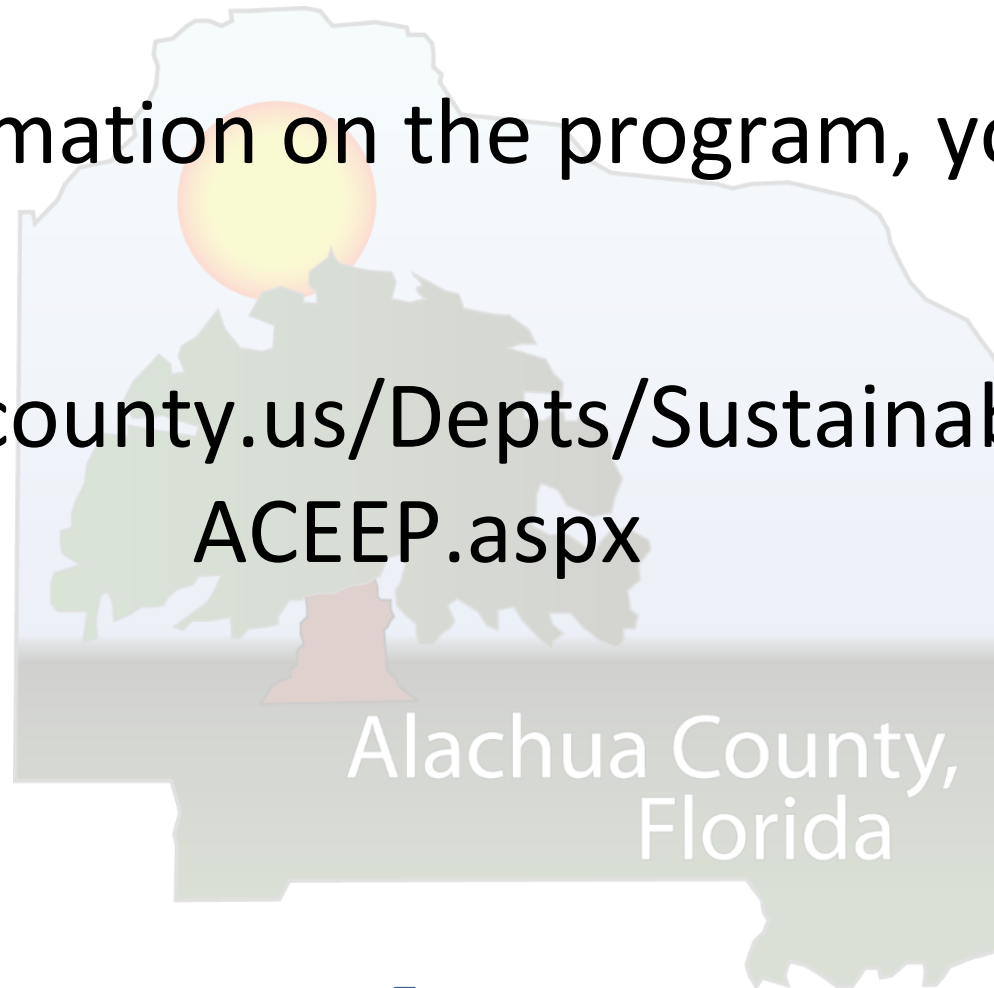
Energy efficiency upgrades are reserved for rental homes housing low-income residents making 50% Area Median Income or less.

Primary program goal is reducing monthly expenses for tenants by reducing energy bills and maintaining affordable rent for a pre-defined term.

# ACEEP Website

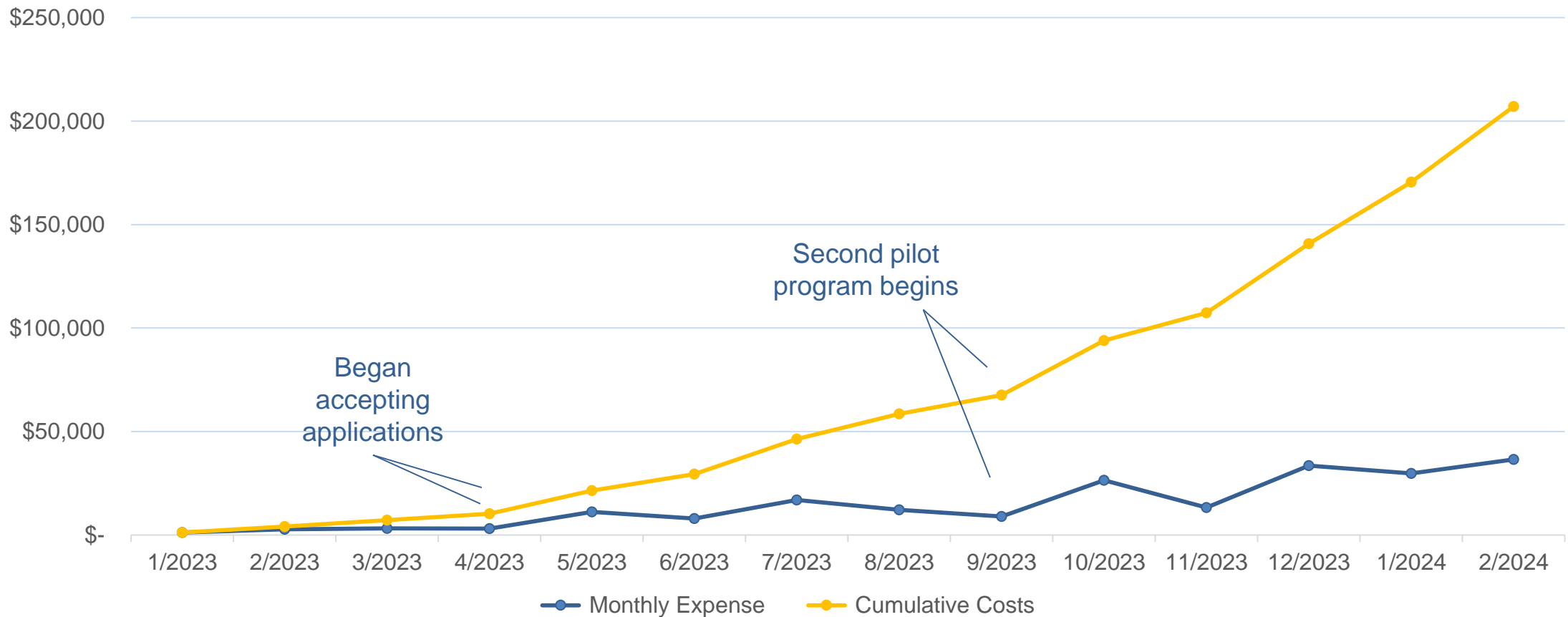
For more information on the program, you can visit

<https://alachuacounty.us/Depts/Sustainability/Pages/ACEEP.aspx>



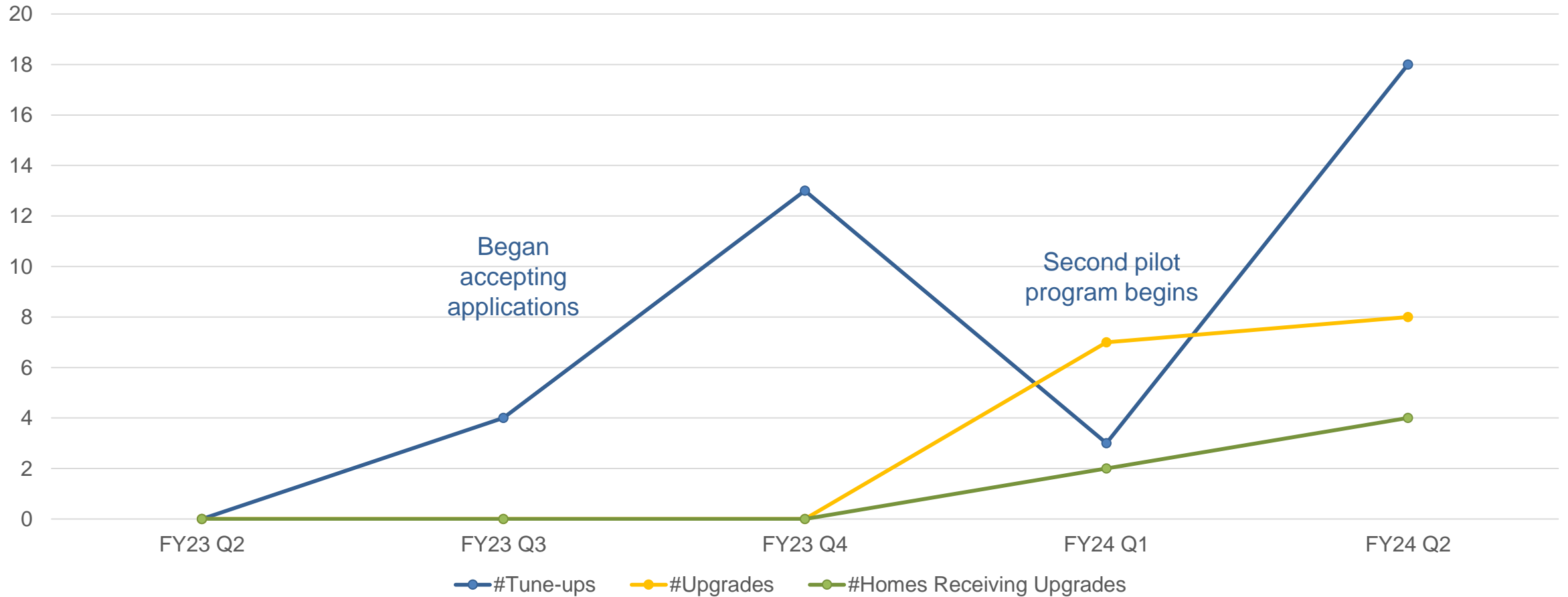
# Pilot Progress Update

## ACEEP Spending Over Time



# Pilot Progress Update

## Tune-ups and Upgrades by Quarter



# Pilot Progress Update

- 27 units were determined eligible at preassessment tune-ups, and pending receiving quotes (46 units total have received tune-ups from the program)
- 7 additional units currently scheduled for preassessment tune-ups
- 20 units are in progress post-assessment:
  - 4 units pending program eligibility (paperwork requirements)
  - 6 units receiving repair estimates
  - 2 units pending work agreements
  - 2 units pending mortgage signing
  - 4 units repairs in progress
  - 2 units ready for close out



# Pilot Progress Update

## Over 70 units on hold or pending

- Post-tune-up
  - 9 pending tenant communications
  - 9 pending health and safety repairs
  - 4 pending prerequisite requirement verification
  - 4 pending due to timing or program restrictions
- Currently ineligible (no tune-ups)
  - Over 50 units are within Gainesville city limits, or are potential units pending landlord contact

Units are primarily large scale, multi-family housing

# Introduction to



- ACEEE is a national non-profit research organization focused on policy development around reducing energy waste.
- ACEEE is non-partisan and collaborates with business, governments, academia, philanthropy, and environmental justice groups
- Previous grant recipients include Bay Area Regional Energy Network, the city of Cambridge, MA, Duluth, MN, Portland, OR, and Tacoma, WA



Awarded to 10 local governments and community-based organizations nationally



Provides technical assistance to:

- Guide quantitative and qualitative research
- Support community and stakeholder engagement processes
- Identify new or expanded opportunities for reducing rental home energy use
- Provide guidance that supports equitable implementation of rental energy efficiency policies and programs

# Proposed Deliverables

- Pre- and Post-Assistance outreach strategies and assistance:
  - First to identify how we can improve the program
  - Then later to advertise the new version of the program
- Guidance on contacting landlords and tenants
- Analysis of outreach results to aid program development, including strategies with highest return on investment
- Design of new outreach materials
- Workshopping sessions with staff and contractors during program implementation

# Example Questions

- Is outreach (getting the word out) our primary challenge? Or are there larger concerns affecting participation?
- How can we improve our outreach return on investment?
- Can we make the program more accessible to multi-unit buildings, especially with regards to tenant vetting requirements and whole-building improvements?
- How we protect program participation from small landlords (especially those in the unincorporated areas and smaller municipalities) if we expand into Gainesville?

# Proposed Timeline



# Staff Recommendations

- Approve participation in ACEEE Energy Equity for Renters technical assistance grant
- Approve new timeline and deliverables



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