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For Immediate Release

August 4, 2020

The Children's Environmental Health Network will develop educational resources for the general public and embark on a targeted educational project for Pittsburgh community members about energy sources, children's health and equity.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The [Children's Environmental Health Network](#) (CEHN) a leader in the national discourse on climate change and children's health, has received a grant through EarthShare's *The Energy of One, The Power of Many* initiative to support a pilot educational campaign specific to energy sources, children's health, and equity.

Energy sources and policy are critical to climate action. Most have heard some of the conversations around energy, but many U.S. residents struggle to understand the relevance to themselves and to their families. People are motivated by the personal and the actionable, and protecting children's health is a strong rationale that drives change.

"CEHN will close this gap between communications, knowledge, and internalization through a multi-platform messaging campaign centered around energy sources and children's health and equity," said Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, CEHN's Executive Director.

CEHN will develop both printed and digital, downloadable resources to better inform general audiences about energy sources and to help draw them more confidently into conversations about impacts on their communities. In addition, CEHN will work with the Homewood Children's Village (HCV) to provide targeted education on the issue to residents of Pittsburgh, specifically residents of the Homewood neighborhood. HCV will disseminate CEHN's educational resources through their direct service deliveries, in their community leadership and advocacy training program, and in their pre-workforce development for teens and young adults.

Through holistic approaches and strong partnerships, HCV creates and delivers opportunities for children in Homewood to succeed. HCV advocates for sustainable community development that puts people first and that addresses environmental concerns such as air and water quality, stormwater management, and renewable energy sources.

Walter Lewis, President and CEO of Homewood Children's Village, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership. "The Village has been working at the intersection of social and environmental justice for nearly a decade, and HCV looks forward to working with CEHN to enrich our programs' curricula around clean energy. In particular, the children's health perspective of this issue aligns with our core focus on the health and wellbeing of the young people within our community."

This project will serve as a pilot to assess knowledge gains, increased self-efficacy, and increased actions in support of just transitions to clean and renewable energy at the community level. Ms. Witherspoon is excited at the prospect of holding similar conversations in communities throughout the country. "When

individuals in a community are able to make connections between energy sources and their lives, and to internalize this learning, meaningful action towards progress can occur on individual and collective levels.”

About the Children’s Environmental Health Network (CEHN)

CEHN is a national organization with the mission to protect the developing child from environmental hazards and promote a healthier environment. As the nation’s leading organization dedicated to children’s environmental health for nearly 30 years, CEHN: supports preventive research; promotes sound policy; provides education and training on child-protective best practices; and elevates public awareness of environmental hazards to children. For more information, visit www.cehn.org.

About Homewood Children’s Village (HCV)

HCV’s mission is to improve the lives of Homewood’s children and simultaneously reweave the fabric of the community in which they live by taking a systems approach to develop comprehensive solutions. Through a diverse array of services, initiatives, and strong partnerships, HCV is building a strong village of support for every child from cradle to career. They are working towards a future in which all Homewood youth graduate from high school ready to thrive in college, career, and life. Initiatives include those aimed to augment child education, community health, and community engagement. For more information, visit <https://hcvpgh.org/>.

About EarthShare

EarthShare is a national nonprofit that connects the most influential environmental organizations with employers, people, and communities to protect our planet. With a network of more than 500 nonprofit partners, EarthShare delivers strategic programs that give people a voice in how they take action — from impacting air quality, clean water, and climate change to preserving the land and wildlife in their own backyard. For more information, visit www.earthshare.org.

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