# New Opportunities in Affordable Housing Energy Efficiency and Renewables

Presentation by Mercy Housing and Affordable Community Energy









- 1 Setting the Stage
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- 3 Why Not Whole Portfolio Retrofits
- 4 Discussion





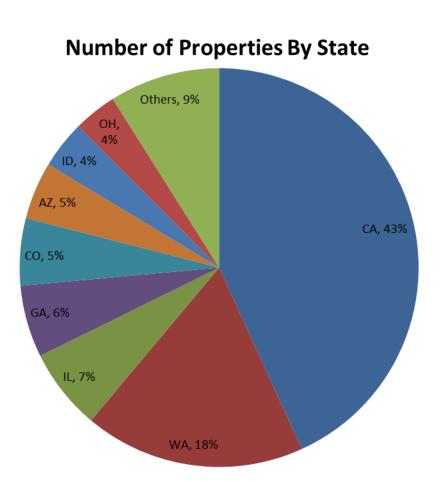




# SETTING THE STAGE

## MERCY HOUSING

- Affordable housing nonprofit
  - ~280 owned properties
  - ~18,000 units
  - ~16.5M sf (owned)
- Mostly LIHTC, Section 202, Section 8, USDA RD
- Green Hope External Environmental Commitments
  - BBC
  - Enterprise Call to Action
  - Renew300











# SETTING THE STAGE

### AFFORDABLE COMMUNITY ENERGY (ACE)

- Mission-Driven Energy Services
  Company
- Whole Building Retrofits
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Water Conservation
  - Renewable, Co-generation and Storage
- Multifamily Affordable Housing
- National
- Turn-key
  - Feasibility/design
  - Installation
  - Management
  - 100% of the capital













# SETTING THE STAGE

## MERCY HOUSING'S OBJECTIVES, CHALLENGES

- Objectives
  - Reduce operating expenses
  - 20% energy and water reduction portfolio wide
- Financial Barriers
  - Split incentives
    - Owner vs HUD
    - Owner vs Tenant
    - Developer vs Manager
  - Payback periods
  - LOC and loan adversity or inability
  - Non-fungible savings/pencil at each property
- Other Constraints
  - Gaining internal buy-in
  - Diverse portfolio











# WHY WHOLE BUILDING RETROFITS?









#### USE IT OR LOSE IT

- Limited benefits from lowhanging fruit
  - Immediate satisfaction
  - But ultimate satisfaction is permanently delayed
- Savings from low-hanging fruit will be lost
  - Management will use it
  - Or HUD will sweep it







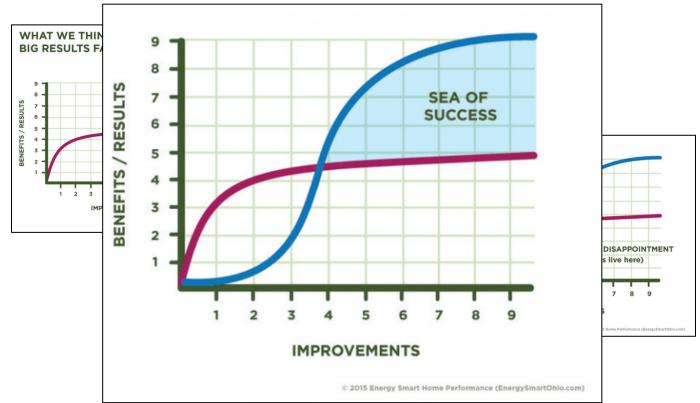






#### USE IT OR LOSE IT

 Properties are "systems," work needs to be integrated<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> From "How 'Low-Hanging Fruit' Has Poisoned Energy Efficiency" by Nate Adams, published online in Greentech Media, Feb. 2, 2015



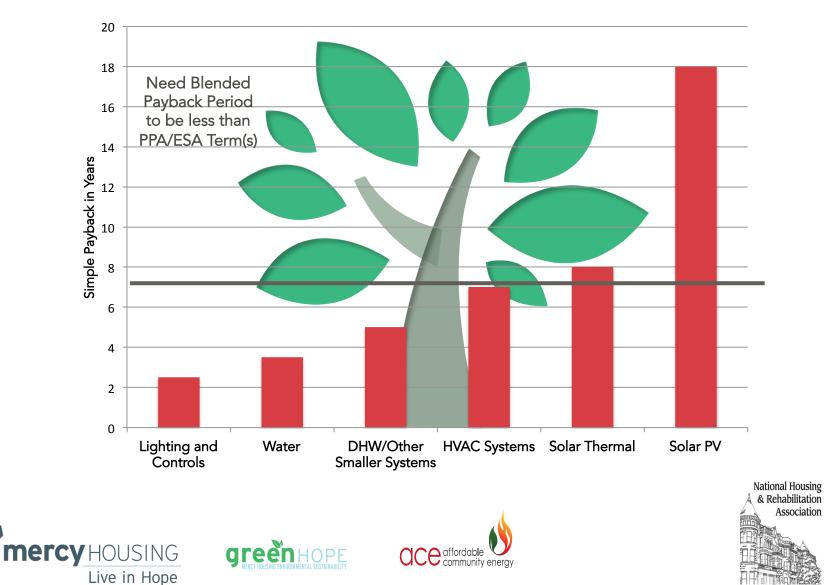






## NOT WHY WHOLE BUILDING RETROFITS-BUT HOW!

#### USE LOWER HANGING FRUIT TO REACH THE TOP



# WHY NOT WHOLE PORTFOLIO RETROFITS











## WHOLE PORTFOLIO RETROFITS

#### ANOTHER FORM OF "LOW-HANGING FRUIT"

Instinct is to focus on the worst offenders in the portfolio Or

Quickly grab the best incentives

Then couldn't afford to make improvements in many of the other properties

Because the savings will be swept











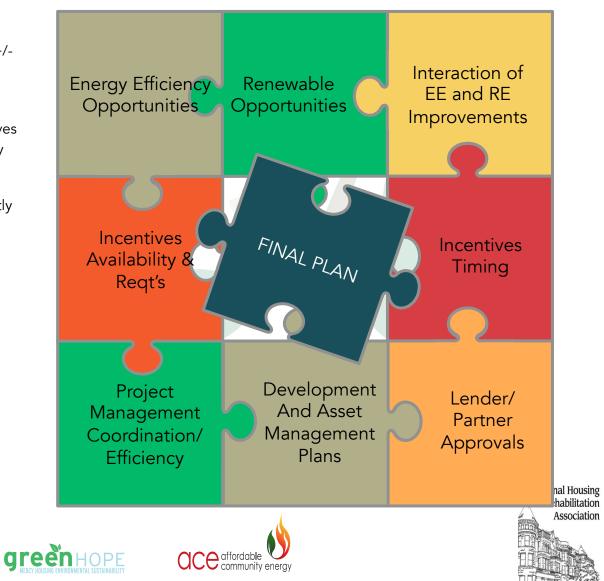
## WHOLE PORTFOLIO RETROFITS

### BUT THIS APPROACH IS MUCH HARDER

- Challenge
  - 120 Properties +/-
  - Savings goal of >20%
  - Need every possible incentives
  - Goal to do every property, every measure
  - Execute efficiently and effectively
- Advantages
  - Institutional openness
  - Good data
  - California

**mercy** HOUSING

Live in Hope



## CONCLUSION





