

Energy Team 2000 Tackles Bay Area Homes



Neil McGaraghan, Energy Team 2000-San Francisco, tackles installing pipe insulation.

The Energy Team 2000/Rebuild in April partnership, a consortium of five Bay Area Christmas in April organizations, spearheaded a successful one-day blitz to install energy-efficiency improvements in over 100 homes in

the San Francisco Bay Area on April 29. More than 100 volunteers, armed with energy-efficiency training from the Energy Team 2000 partnership, took part in this effort to give an energy-efficient boost to homes owned by disabled persons, senior citizens and low-income families. Thanks to Energy Team 2000/Rebuild in April, led by Dr. Lisa Gartland, the participating homes got “the treatment” with volunteers weatherstripping windows and doors, insulating water heaters, installing compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) and low-flow showerheads, and adding other cost-effective energy and water saving devices.

This is the second year that Christmas in April volunteers have installed energy-efficiency improvements, Gartland says. Energy Team 2000 has expanded its reach from one Bay Area Christmas in April chapter last year to include five chapters this year.

Energy Team volunteers teamed with Christmas in April volunteers to give homes a new lease on life. A San Francisco television news station filmed Energy Team volunteers adding a new CFL to a porch light, caulking cracks, and installing a water heater blanket in the home of a senior citizen living in Albany. At the heart of their coverage was Anna Allen, whose home recently had been severely vandalized and burgled while she was in the hospital recuperating from hip surgery. A military officer was on hand to present her with an American flag to replace one she received at her son’s funeral that was stolen by vandals. Allen’s son, a U.S. naval aviator and flight instructor at Top Gun, died during a training exercise several months ago.

Gartland notes that energy-efficiency improvements increase the affordability of a home through energy savings and can make a significant difference to individuals

and families with limited resources. Energy Team 2000’s work to apply over 500 energy and water conservation measures in more than 110 homes will collectively save an estimated \$11,600 annually in homeowner’s utility bills. Donating supplies or money to the Energy Team 2000 blitz were Delco Energy Services, California Water Service Co., East Bay Municipal Utility District, Habitat for Humanity, JKRL USA, Positivenergy, RSA



Kris Kinney of Energy Team 2000-South Bay, flanked by his helpers, weatherstrips a door during the April 29 blitz.

Supply; and various individuals. The Energy Team 2000 partnership supplied the volunteers.

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