# let's Energy

## **EnergyFit**

EnergyFit is a joint initiative of three Brooklynbased organizations that are committed to helping Brooklynites keep their homes affordable and make their communities more environmentally sustainable.



IMPACCT Brooklyn, also known as the Pratt Area Community Council, is a community development corporation committed to helping residents build and sustain flourishing communities in Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Bedford Stuyvesant, Crown Heights, and Prospect Heights. Learn more at impacctbrooklyn.org



Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation's mission is to build a strong, equitable East New York, where youth and adults achieve educational and economic success, secure and preserve affordable housing, and develop leadership skills to transform their lives and community. Learn more at cypresshills.org



For 60 years, the Pratt Center for Community Development has combined participatory planning, community organizing and education, research and public policy advocacy to support community-based organizations in their efforts to challenge systemic inequities and create a more just, sustainable NYC. Learn more at prattcenter.net

EnergyFit is made possible through community project funding introduced by Congressman Hakeem Jeffries. Additional support has been generously provided by:

JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.



This guide was produced by the Pratt Center for Community Development. Published July 2023.



### Contents

Getting EnergyFit	4
EnergyFit's 3 Main Pillars	6
The Process	8
EnergyFit Packages	10
Benefits for Tenants & Homeowners	12
Who is Eligible?	14

## Getting EnergyFit

EnergyFit Affordable Small Homes Initiative (EnergyFit) is a fully subsidized home repair, energy retrofit, and electrification-readiness program for homeowners living in Central and Eastern Brooklyn.

The goal of EnergyFit is to help low- and moderateincome households access clean energy benefits that have routinely been denied and/or poorly implemented in these communities.

EnergyFit aims to serve 50–75 two- and three-unit buildings and impact an estimated 150–225 households.

EnergyFit will also gather data on the benefits, costs, challenges, and barriers for homeowners and tenants living in 2- and 3-unit buildings, as well as for contractors working in the field. This information will be used to advocate for better City and State programs, incentives and support that enable all households to benefit from the clean energy transition.

EnergyFit is a joint initiative of the Pratt Center for Community Development, IMPACCT Brooklyn, and Cypress Hills LDC. Our organizations are committed to helping Brooklynites keep their homes affordable and make their communities more sustainable.



## EnergyFit's 3 Main Pillars

#### **Health & Safety Repairs**

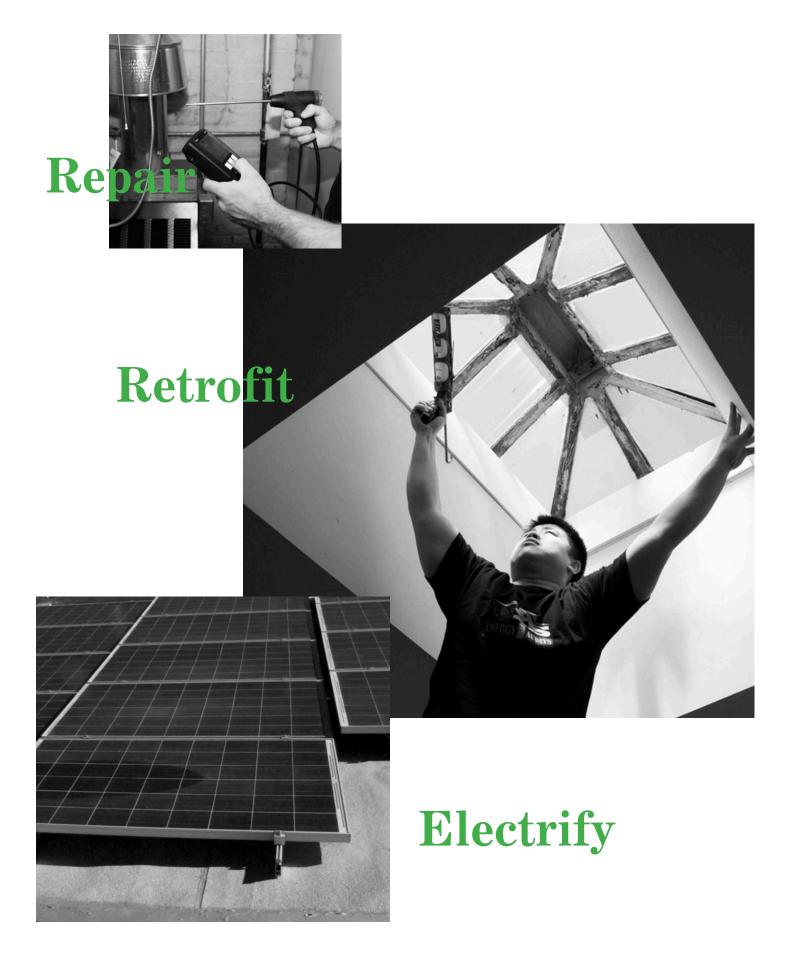
Addressing critical structural or energy system issues that would compromise the effectiveness of an energy retrofit. This could include roof fixes, mold remediation, asbestos removal, ventilation fixes, boiler maintenance, and more.

### **Energy Efficiency Retrofits**

Repairs and upgrades that decrease a home's consumption of heating fuel, electricity & water. This includes the insulation and weatherization of the building with a particular focus on the attic, roof hatch, and basement; along with the installation of energy conservation measures such as LED lighting, pipe wrap, CO/Smoke detectors, and low-flow water fixtures.

#### **Electrification-Readiness**

Assessing the structural needs and costs to upgrade a building from fossil fuel burning equipment to electrical equipment. Measures include upgrading electrical panel boxes and wiring; changing out gas stoves for electric induction; installing electric domestic hot water heaters; and assessing for solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity.



## The Process

1 Outreach

As the program kicks off, the EnergyFit outreach team led by IMPACCT and Cypress Hills LDC (CHLDC) will conduct activities to connect with, educate, and inform potentially eligible households about the EnergyFit program.

2 Eligibility

Once a homeowner inquires about the program, the EnergyFit team will reach out to begin a 2-part assessment process that will determine whether they meet all the criteria for participating in the program.

3 Assessment

(Part 1) Over-the-phone assessment with a Housing Counselor to determine if an in-home visit from the EnergyFit Contractor is appropriate.

(Part 2) In-person assessments performed by the EnergyFit contractor and electrician. Includes health and safety testing, assessment of need for energy efficiency package, assessment of need for electrical system upgrades including stove, and assessment of potential for electrification of the domestic hot water heater.

4 Selecting a Package

Eligible households will be offered up to two packages of measures to choose between (see table on p. 8), based on results of the in-home assessment.

5 Implementation

EnergyFit's licensed and approved contractor(s) will carry out the predetermined scope of work.

6 Monitoring

Energy usage and the homeowner's experience will be tracked for the following year to understand how the retrofit impacts their utility bills, comfort, and overall management of the building.

EnergyFit's straighforward, easy-to-understand process makes it easier for homeowners to decide if they want to participate.



Contact us about your interest in EnergyFit



Our team
assesses your
eligibility



Select 1 of 2
4 EnergyFit
package options



Contractors conduct an assessment of your home



We repair and retrofit your home accordingly



Our team monitors your energy usage for a year

3

## **EnergyFit Packages**

		Package 1	Package 2	Package 3
Home Repairs (as needed)				
Energy Efficiency Measures				
Electrification F Measures	Readiness			
	Electric Induction Stoves			
	Wiring and Panel Upgrades			
(I)	Electric Domestic Hot Water Heater			
	Solar Photovoltaic Installation (on hold)			

### **Package Details**

All packages include the standard set of measures listed below. Packages 2 and 3 include additional electrification measures. (Package 3 currently on hold)

### Home Repairs (as needed)

Asbestos remediation

Mold remediation

Roof repair

**Ventilation fixes** 

General heating system repairs

Health & safety testing & repairs

### **Energy Efficiency Measures**

Targeted air sealing and weatherstripping of residence and basement Replacement of incandescent & halogen lighting with LED

Installation of carbon monoxide and smoke detectors

Insulation of basement hot water heater and heating pipes

Insulation and air sealing of the attic cavity and roof hatch Installation of low-flow faucet aerators & showerheads

#### **Electrification Readiness Measures**

Replacement of gas stoves with electric induction stoves

Wiring and electrical panel upgrades

Packages 2 & 3 only

Electric domestic hot water heater

Package 3 only

Solar Photovoltaic Installation (on hold)

## Benefits for Tenants & Homeowners

- Receive critical health and safety repairs
- Warmer, less drafty homes in the winter, cooler homes in the summer
- Less humidity in the home
- Fewer cooking smells from neighbors
- Fewer tenant complaints
- Improved indoor air quality
- Reduced risk of asthma and respiratory illness
- Lower utility bills\*
- Subsidies help reduce long term maintenance costs for homeowners, helping ensure their home can be passed to the next generation.

<sup>\*</sup>Lower utility bills are dependent on the impact of energy efficiency with electrification. This will be made clear to homeowners before they determine which package to install.



Previous participants of EnergyFit.

## Who is eligible?

Building Criteria	2- or 3-unit Buildings Building must have either two or three units
	Gas Stoves All units must currently have gas stoves
Homeowner Criteria	Owner Occupied Building owner must reside in the building
	Income Building owner's household income must be below 130% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for New York City. See table below.

For a household of	Income must be less than
1	\$141,310
2	\$161,590
3	\$181,740
4	\$201,890
5	\$218,010
6	\$234,130
7	\$250,380
8	\$266,500

Participation
Requirement
Building owner must provide access to energy bills for all units in the building for one year.



## EnergyFit

To learn more visit EnergyFitNYC.com

or call the Pratt Center at **(718) 636-3496** 



LET'S GET ENERGYFIT A Guide to the EnergyFit Affordable Small Homes Program 2024

