



BY THE NUMBERS

- **\$18M** in total loans
- **25%** average energy savings
- **30,000** job hours created

COMMUNITY IMPACT

SELF was recently credited with helping frontline workers manage their utility bills during the COVID-19 pandemic via a specialized low-cost financing program. One worker for the U.S. Postal Service shared he had looked into solar panels as a way to save on his energy bill, but was shot down by [eight or nine companies](#) before lining up financing through SELF.

5,000 FLORIDIANS SAVE BIG WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS

The Solar and Energy Loan Fund (SELF) started in St. Lucie County Florida to help low- and moderate-income (LMI) households overcome cost barriers associated with sustainable home improvement projects. The community-based lending organization has operated a variety of clean energy financing programs since 2010, including special programs for women, veterans, seniors, and disabled homeowners.

To date, SELF has issued \$18 million in total loans, with 72% of lending helping LMI homeowners. Approximately 2,000 Florida families have accessed the program's affordable financing to fund energy efficiency, renewable energy, and resiliency upgrades. SELF clients save an average of 25% on their energy bills and use the energy savings, plus applicable rebates and tax credits, to pay back the loans.

This first-of-its-kind local government green bank was brought to life with \$2.9 million in seed funding from the Department of Energy's [Better Building Neighborhood Program](#). During its development, SELF approved over 38 contractors to provide program services, creating quality jobs for Florida's hard-hit construction industry. The program currently works with a network of over 600 pre-screened companies and provides contractors with training workshops on green technologies and energy efficiency awareness, making it an integral part of Central Florida's business community.

SUPPORT MORE PROJECTS LIKE THESE

Providing funding for the State Energy Program and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, investing in advanced energy workforce development and training, and targeting projects that will improve resilience and reduce energy burdens for low-income customers can bring more projects like this to Florida.