



POWERING THE FUTURE...MAKING A DIFFERENCE

SMCNECA understands the importance of fostering and supporting the future of our industry through mentoring, coaching and developing new talent. The SMCNECA Student Chapter works to engage, educate and encourage construction and construction related students in many aspects of our industry and associated career opportunities.

SMCNECA has partnered with Wayne State University for our initial SMCNECA Student Chapter. The program allows SMCNECA professionals to teach the next generation of contractor professionals through a series of one-on-one meetings, coaching sessions and associated project work.



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THE GREEN ENERGY CHALLENGE



For their Green Energy Challenge project, the twelve members of the Spirit of Detroit team chose to help the residents of Covenant House Michigan, a youth homeless shelter located in the city of Detroit that offers a place for young adults between the ages of 18-24 who have no place else to go.



SMCNECA supported the Spirit of Detroit team’s mission to help implement clean, economically viable energy solutions and a better quality and living environment for the residents of Covenant House Michigan. Together with professional help from SMCNECA, the Spirit of Detroit team prepared a technical analysis, facility evaluation and system design, cost estimate and finance plan. They also sought to obtain donations, grants and outside funding for the project.

Jeff Coffey, Director of Property Management & Auxiliary Services for Covenant House Michigan. “The proposal they wrote for us gives us the tools we need to begin the transition into a greener facility.”

In addition to SMCNECA, the Spirit of Detroit Team received support from IBEW Local 58, Ferndale Electric, Centerline Electric, DTE Energy, Michigan Solar Solutions, Schneider Electric, Engineering Solutions, Wayne State University and Fletcher.

“The Green Energy Challenge has introduced the opportunity for Covenant House Michigan to think green in places where we would not have thought to do so before,” said



CHRIS VALLIERE

Being a part of this SMCNECA team has opened up a lot of new doors for me. Through this green energy challenge, I’ve met so many different new people,” said team captain **Chris Valliere**. “I’ve networked with a lot of people. And being a part of the SMCNECA chapter is the reason I am working at Ferndale

Electric now. If it wasn’t for SMCNECA, I would have probably never made the connection and found this job. My association with SMCNECA has really helped my career.”



SAL LODUCA

The connections at this NECA chapter are fantastic. If it weren’t for SMCNECA I wouldn’t even dare to go out to universities and put my name out,” said team member **Sal LoDuca**.



TOM MOONS

Its been a great learning experience that we can take to the workforce. With the help of our NECA advisor, I was able to access information from the Department of Energy that helped me calculate the amount of energy savings we could create from our proposed modifications to the building,” said team member **Tom Moons**.



IONANE TAUTIAGA

The fact that students are communicating directly with electrical industry contractors is great. Putting up numbers, putting up ideas, putting it on paper and talking to real world professionals who do this work is interesting to me,” said team member **Ionane Tautiaga**.

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