

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Standard Energy Solutions to Provide Comfort and Savings through Energy Retrofits to GUIDE Program Homes

Energy efficiency updates to save Maryland non-profit \$10,000 annually

ROCKVILLE, MD— May 17, 2011—[Standard Energy Solutions](#) (SES), a division of [Standard Solar](#) that focuses on [energy assessment and performance retrofitting](#), today announced energy retrofits to nine [GUIDE Program](#) (GUIDE) buildings, which will result in savings of an estimated \$10,000 per year for the non-profit organization.

GUIDE is a behavioral health and social services organization serving communities in the Washington-Baltimore area. SES is providing several improvements to various GUIDE facilities: an HVAC system replacement, water heater replacement, duct sealing, air sealing and insulation, as well as an LED lighting retrofit in the GUIDE home office.

“This project is especially rewarding because it will touch the lives of so many. Energy efficient homes are more comfortable and welcoming,” said Scott Carr, vice president of SES. “We applaud the efforts of GUIDE for making such important changes to their residences and facilities.”

The work is part of GUIDE’s Going Green Initiative to become more environmentally friendly while stretching their financial resources further. It is being funded in part with \$67,000 in grants from the Maryland Energy Administration’s [Clean Energy Communities Low-to-Moderate Income Grant Program](#).

GUIDE’s executive director, Scott Birdsong commented, “our green initiative really represents a transformative commitment to approaching energy consumption in a new way – a commitment that we are finding resonates very positively with many in the business, governmental, and philanthropic sectors as well.”

The energy retrofits are being performed on one office and eight residential buildings in Prince George’s County and Baltimore City – including six group homes that provide psychiatric residential rehabilitation services and housing for 35 adults with psychiatric disabilities, two group homes that provide therapeutic residential services to 12 adolescents with serious emotional disorders and the organization’s main office in Laurel.

The GUIDE project is expected to cost approximately \$111,000 and provide a full return on investment within about 10 years. After the retrofitting work is completed, GUIDE will save an estimated 45,107 kWh in electricity annually – about a 25 percent reduction in energy consumption.

SES has completed work on seven of the GUIDE Program’s buildings to date and the remaining work is expected to be complete by May 15.

SES specializes in energy assessments and [efficiency improvements](#) on residential and commercial buildings. In addition to these services, SES assists customers with the necessary paperwork including obtaining permits, licenses and inspections. [SES also completes the forms to apply for utility, state, and federal government-issued grants, rebates, credits and incentives that help make energy assessments, performance retrofitting and solar energy more affordable.](#)

About Standard Energy Solutions

Standard Energy Solutions (SES) is a full-service energy efficiency firm that specializes in energy assessments and home energy improvements. Our company was founded by solar energy and building professionals who are not just committed to making it easier and more convenient to buy solar electric systems but also to making total energy consumption more efficient. Our team of dedicated professionals, auditors, installers, electricians and managers offers simple and dependable home energy improvements and solar energy solutions to homeowners and businesses alike. A division of [Standard Solar, Inc.](#), SES is headquartered in Rockville, MD. For more information, please visit www.standardenergysolutions.com.

About GUIDE Program, Inc.

GUIDE is a non-profit agency that has been actively providing behavioral healthcare and social services in the region since 1968. Annually the agency serves over 2,000 children, youth, and families with emotional and behavioral health challenges, and adults with serious and persistent mental illness. The agency delivers behavioral healthcare services and provides access to related healthcare supports to individuals and families with low to moderate incomes. In addition to providing community counseling and therapeutic services directly, the organization provides community living opportunities to youth and adults who require specialized and supported housing assistance resulting from mental and behavioral health problems. GUIDE operates programs located in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, as well as in Baltimore City although services can be offered throughout the Washington/Baltimore metroplex. For more information about GUIDE, visit www.GuideProgram.org.

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