July 2, 2026

Dear Energy Efficiency Advisory Council,

It would be my privilege to be selected and serve on the Equity Working Group for the Energy Efficiency Council. As a community organizer and longtime Mass Save® ambassador to underserved populations, I believe that working directly with residents equips me to make meaningful contributions as a non-voting member.

I began my career at All In Energy and have experience working from different perspectives integral to the EEAC and Mass Save® programs, as the lead implementation vendor, a municipal government, and a community-based organization. Since 2019, my commitment to outreach in some of the most underserved communities across the Commonwealth has been in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. I also trained All In Energy's first bilingual outreach engagement team to do the same. In this capacity, I then supported the launch of the Mass Save® Community First Partnership, helping unique community teams reach their residents. Having served in Mass Save® community engagement prior to the pandemic, during the pandemic, and now in the years after, my experiences have given me insight into the motivations and hesitations of diverse residents that are crucial for understanding how best to reach them.

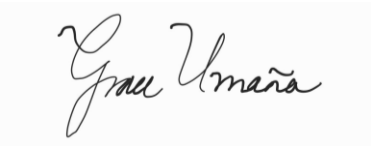
When I chose to leave All In Energy to work at the City of Chelsea as the Resident Engagement and Resource Navigation Specialist, it was to deepen my understanding beyond environmental justice to support housing and other trauma-informed needs. By conducting in-depth needs assessments for long-term residents' overall well-being, I provided holistic support, identified resources, and leveraged strong relationships with community partners to develop sustainable support plans for residents. I served hundreds of residents in accessing critical assistance programs, and now have a deep understanding of the connection between housing stability and energy affordability. While in Chelsea, we created several energy bill check-up events, often alongside GreenRoots and CAPIC, and learned that until basic needs are met, community members are not ready to think about energy, and that having key networks available is essential to making readiness a reality.

Currently, I have served in director-level roles at Boston Climate Action Network. I started serving our membership base as Advocacy Director, helping to execute major strategic campaigns and initiatives. I now serve as our inaugural Energy Justice Director, leading the implementation of our new Energy Navigation Program. This program and organizing effort, paired with BCAN’s role as a Community First Partner, put all of my skill sets in a position to work with residents through trusted organizations, whom I am also training to be energy justice

leaders. Alongside the mighty community of Boston advocates, I work hand in hand with municipal and community leaders to ensure equity is made real for all residents.

For many years, my work has informed the EEAC, at times without my fully realizing it. I hope to continue to share the testimonials, stories, and experiences of residents who have needed Mass Save® and benefited from it. I am rooted in being part of a collective of strategic leadership that is needed for such a time as now. Thank you for this opportunity!

With gratitude,



Grace Umaña
Energy Justice Director
Boston Climate Action Network