

WE ARE SERVING

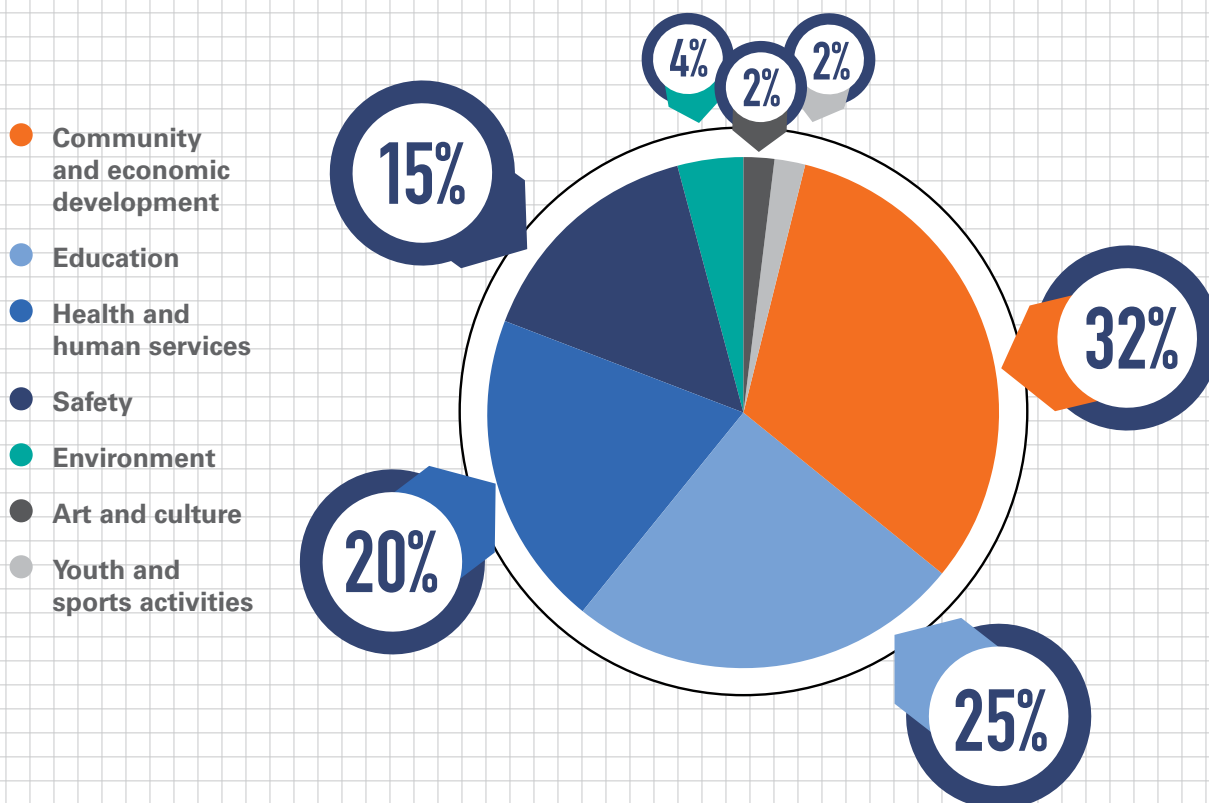


2015 Corporate Citizenship Report



IMPACT, SERVICE AND VALUE

2015 Corporate Contributions



More than
10,000
POWER LINE-FRIENDLY TREES
donated through the Right Tree,
Right Place program

Donated
\$2.75
million
to United Way with 66%
employee participation



OUR VISION

At CenterPoint Energy, our vision is to **Lead the nation in delivering energy, service and value.** To us this means more than just doing business; it means being guided by a set of core values that define who we are and what we believe.



OUR VALUES

We believe strong business performance is driven by sound strategy, strong execution and solid values. We're committed to doing business every day with **safety, integrity, accountability, initiative and respect** for our customers, shareholders, employees and the communities we serve.

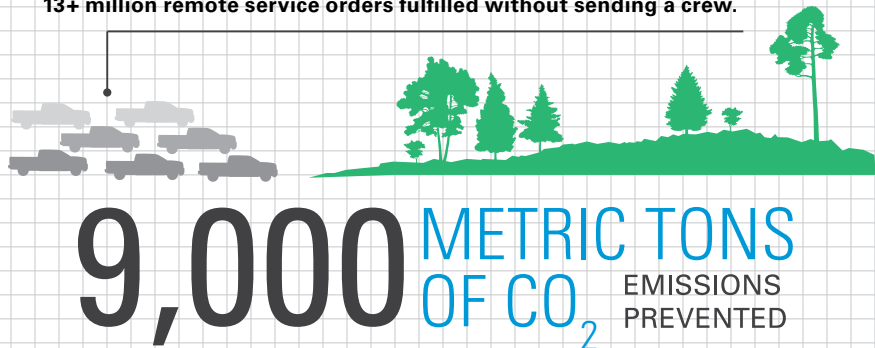


OUR COMMITMENT

For more than 140 years, CenterPoint Energy has served communities across the United States while building relationships between our employees and our customers. When the families and businesses we serve are strong, the communities where CenterPoint Energy operates are strong.

CARBON OFFSET

13+ million remote service orders fulfilled without sending a crew.



Between February 2009 and July 2012, CenterPoint Energy installed more than 2.2 million smart meters for residential and business customers in Houston. Smart meters make detailed electricity consumption information available to customers to help them control their energy use. The meters can also be read, connected and disconnected remotely, resulting in fewer company trucks on the road, and preventing approximately 9,000 metric tons of CO₂ emissions.

GIVE GRANT AMOUNT

\$71,900

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GRANT AMOUNT

\$130,000

CORPORATE CONTRIBUTIONS	1
LETTER TO COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS	3
CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP	4
RESPONSIBILITY TO THE ENVIRONMENT	6
SAFETY AND EDUCATION	8
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	10
VOLUNTEER OUTREACH	12
2015 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR	16
2015 AWARDS	20

DEAR COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS,

CenterPoint Energy values the relationships we have formed in the communities where we serve. We are not only committed to delivering safe and reliable electricity and natural gas, but also to finding new ways to address the needs of the communities where we live and work. Each day, we strive to live out our values of safety, integrity, accountability, initiative and respect.

Over the years, we have developed strong relationships with small and diverse suppliers to support economic growth through our Supplier Diversity initiative. We are building lasting impact through our community partnerships such as Rebuilding Together Houston and being part of its Super Impact 17.

Investing in the next generation is important to CenterPoint Energy. Through our longstanding partnership with Junior Achievement, we have been able to reach more than 50,000 students to provide financial literacy and career development. Our employees also participated in various literacy initiatives, such as United Way Reading Together and Read Across America to help improve literacy rates across our footprint.

Safety is a top priority at CenterPoint Energy. We want to make sure our customers understand the importance of being safe around electricity and natural gas. Our employees are sharing these important messages with the help of Louie the Lightning Bug®, Buddy Blue Flame™ and Wanda Water Heater™ at local elementary schools and in other communities through our employee Speakers' Bureau.

We strive to be good stewards of the environment. CenterPoint Energy is committed to responsible actions that can help reduce emissions, ensure reliable power and control costs for our customers.

Volunteerism is at the heart of our company culture. In 2015, our employees, retirees and their families and friends contributed tens of thousands of hours to their communities, helping to make them better places in which to learn, work and live.

As we work each day to support our communities through volunteer outreach, energy efficiency, education and economic development efforts, CenterPoint Energy is living out our company values. Together, **we are serving our communities through impact, service and value.**

Scott M. Prochazka

President and CEO



Floyd J. LeBlanc

Vice President
Public Affairs and
Communications



Diane M. Englet

Senior Director
Corporate Community
Relations



Corporate Citizenship

CenterPoint Energy is committed to supporting our communities through our partnerships with diverse businesses and giving our time and expertise in community leadership roles.

COMMITMENT TO MILITARY

CenterPoint Energy currently has 546 employees who are veterans or active military reservists. U.S. Veterans Magazine named CenterPoint Energy one of its Top Veteran-Friendly Companies for our participation in military job fairs and our hiring practices, including our commitment to hiring those with disabilities. CenterPoint Energy also was the largest corporate sponsor in a program providing wreaths for veterans' cemeteries in Lawton, Okla.

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

Diversity is an essential tool that creates a competitive edge in today's marketplace. Companies that value diversity realize new and better relationships with their most critical stakeholders. CenterPoint Energy is committed to developing strong working relationships with diverse suppliers, including minority-owned, women-owned and small business enterprises (MWBES), and using innovative approaches designed to continually improve business opportunities. In 2015, CenterPoint Energy was awarded the Edison Electric Institute Excellence in Supplier Diversity Award. We also participated in more than 30 local, state and national supplier diversity outreach events.



546
EMPLOYEES
who are veterans
or active military
reservists

Our attorneys contributed
193
PRO BONO HOURS
to communities we serve

300
EMPLOYEES
serve across
504 nonprofit boards



In Houston, employees participated in the UNCF Walk for Education. The funds raised help provide scholarships for promising students who otherwise might not be able to afford to attend college.



Employees in Minnesota held safety fairs at local community and fire department open houses. Safety messages, hoop toys and blinking lights were handed out, reaching more than 30,000 customers.



Serving our communities through education is one way our employees are impacting the future work force. CNP supports Junior Achievement's programs to help young people gain the financial literacy and work readiness they'll need to succeed in a global economy.



At the Wesley Community Center in Houston, employees packed and distributed nearly 800 holiday bags of food to local families.

Responsibility to the Environment

CenterPoint Energy is working to invest in our natural resources, as well as promote energy efficiency, to help conserve our environment. For the ninth consecutive year, the company earned the Sustained Excellence in Program Delivery award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

As a result of our energy-efficiency efforts in 2015, approximately 170,000 megawatt hours of energy were saved. Our programs span across commercial, residential and low-income sites, and the savings captured in these programs help to keep our environment cleaner by reducing energy consumption, as well as helping to educate our customers on other ways to manage their home energy consumption efficiently.

Our Energy Wise program provided 14,265 energy kits to Houston-area middle school students and explained water and energy conservation tips.

More than 11,000 new homes were part of our ENERGY STAR New Homes program, which provided incentives to builders in our electric service territory. ENERGY STAR-certified new homes are designed and built to standards well above those of most other homes on the market today, delivering energy efficiency savings of up to 30 percent higher than typical new homes.

CenterPoint Energy's Schools Conserving Resources (SCORE)/CitySmart program helps consumers identify ways to reduce energy costs, specifically in public and private schools, nonprofits, colleges and governmental entities.

In 2015, The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston had huge success in the SCORE program. UTMB completed 23 lighting projects across multiple facilities and received \$212,499 in incentives from CenterPoint Energy, making it our largest participant in 2015. With the incentives from CenterPoint Energy and money saved on electric bills from the new, efficient lighting, UTMB will be able to purchase more energy-efficient equipment in 2016 and continue to reduce its load on the grid.

CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Rebates from our Conservation Improvement Program encourage residential and business natural gas customers in Arkansas, Minnesota, Mississippi and Oklahoma to choose energy-efficient equipment, and our other energy-saving programs also helped them save energy and money.

In 2015, our customers saved more than 2.2 billion cubic feet of natural gas, a company record, and an energy cost saving of nearly \$17.9 million, the equivalent of the annual energy usage of about 27,000 homes.

These savings reduced our customers' total carbon footprint by about 120,000 metric tons, which is equivalent to removing 20,000 cars from the road for a year.

RECYCLING

CenterPoint Energy recycles many different types of material in an attempt to lower the company's use of landfill space. In 2015, recycling saved the company \$6.8 million in landfill costs.



11,239,518

POUNDS OF SCRAP METAL
including wire, cable, transmission towers, pipe, gas meters and electric meters

11,030

POUNDS OF TRANSFORMERS

636,091

GALLONS
of used oil including motor oil and transformer oil



320.81

TONS OF WOOD PRODUCTS



24,124

POUNDS OF LAMPS

“The LED program has been very successful for us. We’ve been doing several LED retrofit projects here at UTMB. We’ve been mandated through our leadership to reduce our energy consumption by 2 percent a year. Through CenterPoint Energy’s energy efficiency incentives program, we’ve been able to attain our goal. The funds we get from CenterPoint Energy as incentives go right back into the project to continue on with the next year’s project. CenterPoint Energy has been a great community partner.”

Christian Robbian, Program Director of Engineering
University of Texas Medical Branch



RIGHT TREE RIGHT PLACE

Our employees participated in more than 30 tree-planting and education outreach events. Through our partnership with Energy Saving Trees, we gave away 2,500 trees to help reduce energy consumption for 1,444 individuals. We also sponsored Trees for Houston’s Trees for Schools program.

Safety

and Education

Education is the foundation of advancing our communities and reinforcing safe work practices. Our partnerships with local schools and nonprofits allow us to share safety tips and professional experience to transfer knowledge to future generations.

SAFETY AWARENESS

During 2015, our Gas Safety group implemented the Picarro leak detection system. Picarro involves highly sensitive surveying equipment installed on vehicles that can sense the presence of natural gas from as far away as 600 feet. Our company is using this technology to conduct regulatory compliance surveying, as well as to identify gas leaks resulting from accidents. The mobile technology enables the natural gas crews to cover large areas in a short amount of time, which in the case of major incidents, can allow faster identification of leaks and dispatch of crews to protect the public.

SUPPORTING LITERACY

Employees from Pine Bluff and Stuttgart, Ark., partnered with other community leaders in a community wide “Let’s Read Together” initiative. Volunteers read books and shared natural gas safety tips with students at a local elementary school. In addition, our employees were involved in literacy tutoring efforts across our footprint.

SAFETY PRESENTATIONS IN SCHOOLS AND THE COMMUNITY

Our company icons, Buddy Blue Flame™ and Louie the Lightning Bug®, had a busy year. Buddy Blue Flame had his own safety booklet with activities created for elementary students. His booklet features key natural gas safety messages through puzzles and activities and is distributed at local schools and events and by our Home Service Plus® technicians when they visit our customers with families.

Louie the Lightning Bug® partnered with Orbit, the Houston Astros’ mascot, to visit Houston-area elementary schools and talk about electric and natural gas safety. Louie also made appearances at the Houston Mayor’s Back to School Festival and Houston/Galveston Hurricane Workshop to give out additional safety information and encourage storm preparedness.

Our employees volunteered at the annual Harris County Bright Futures Fair/Street Olympics. This event provided students hands-on experience in creating electrical circuits and an understanding of the importance of safety inside and outside of their homes.



130 PRESENTATIONS

were made about electric and natural gas safety, hurricane preparedness and energy efficiency by our Speakers’ Bureau

25,000

STUDENTS received our Louie/Buddy activity booklet at Houston Back to School event



JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

Employees across our footprint support the Junior Achievement program in their communities, including serving on their local programs' boards of directors, raising funds through bowling events and sharing valuable information about business and financial literacy. Last year marked a major corporate milestone, having reached more than 50,000 students in Houston, our largest market, with our longstanding JA partnership. In 2015, our volunteers enabled 7,000 Houston-area students to gain an understanding of work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy so that they can have an impact on their city's future.

Our partnership with Junior Achievement of Southeast Texas goes beyond teaching business concepts, including teaching youths about electric and natural gas safety. As part of JA Biztown, CenterPoint Energy's safety depot allows students to role play as safety experts. In Minneapolis, our volunteers at JA STEM camp helped students gain an understanding and appreciation of how an engineer's work makes our community safer and more efficient. As a sponsor for JA Inspire, a unique career awareness event held in the Houston area, CenterPoint Energy helped nearly 19,000 middle school students learn about local companies and careers, as well as valuable electric and gas safety messages.



1,500 STUDENTS
learned about staying safe around
electricity through our partnership
with Children's Museum of Houston

We celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday by participating in Read Across America and encouraging our employees to share their love of reading with a child. Our employees read at **31** schools and nonprofits to over **2,700** students. In addition, we made **22** grants totaling **\$7,775**.

Community

Development

CenterPoint Energy is an active partner in the community. Through our Community Partnership Grants, more than \$130,000 was awarded to communities in Minnesota, Arkansas and Oklahoma for safety-related projects or equipment used in emergency response. Since 2003, the company has awarded 638 grants valued at \$1.27 million.



COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

Lending a helping hand is a part of our company culture. For more than 20 years, we have partnered with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity in Minnesota to develop, build and revitalize affordable, energy-efficient housing. We also partnered with Rebuilding Together Houston to repair homes that are owned by low-income elderly and military individuals. In leading up to the 2017 Super Bowl in Houston, CenterPoint Energy kicked off the first home repair for the Super Impact 17 campaign.

CenterPoint Energy celebrated achieving \$1 million in rebates for our Nonprofit Affordable Housing program. This program provides rebates for energy-efficient space- and water-heating equipment, insulation and related measures in homes developed and constructed by participating nonprofit affordable housing agencies.

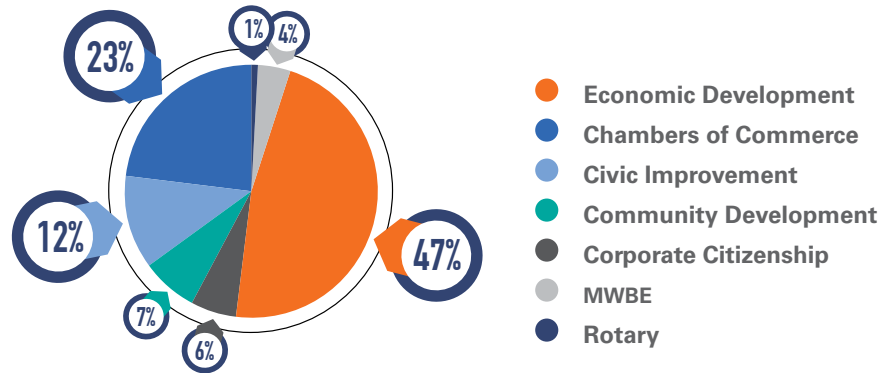
“We are extremely proud of our strong, long-standing relationships with these agencies and our partnership in working together to expand affordable housing opportunities for those in need in our Minnesota communities,” said Doug Peterson, senior director of Sales and Conservation Improvement Program Implementation. “The residents will be able to live more affordably and comfortably with substantial annual energy savings over all the years they live in their new homes.”

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CenterPoint Energy strives to be a force for growth and economic prosperity in the communities we serve by creating and/or retaining jobs that facilitate growth, provide a stable community tax base and thus expand our customer base.

In 2015, our Economic Development team collaborated with other local organizations on projects that resulted in more than \$2.5 billion in total economic impact and more than \$700 million in new capital investment for the region. These projects are creating jobs for the region, helping build the tax base for the communities we serve and increasing community prosperity. In addition to the project activity, the Economic Development staff has partnered with other local organizations on recent important issues impacting future economic development, including: workforce development and training initiatives, local and state incentive programs, infrastructure improvements and strategic regional planning.

2015 Civic Budget



POWER TOOLS FOR NONPROFITS CONFERENCE

The Power Tools for Nonprofits Conference, held with our community partner the University of Houston, provided an educational forum for nonprofit professionals, volunteers and board members, offering ideas on how to leverage resources, strengthen organizational effectiveness and improve the quality of life for all. In 2015, 24 sessions were available to strengthen the skills of more than 600 nonprofit workers. Sports broadcaster and former NFL player Spencer Tillman (second from right above) was the keynote speaker.



TORCHLIGHT PARADE

Nearly 200 employees, family and friends joined together to celebrate the 76th annual Aquatennial celebration. For the past 15 years, CenterPoint Energy has served as the title sponsor of the Torchlight Parade in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The company float included Buddy Blue Flame™, as well as a vanguard of natural gas vehicles.



Volunteer Outreach

Community involvement is part of CenterPoint Energy’s culture of giving back. In 2015, our employees, retirees and their families and friends contributed more than 203,000 hours of volunteer time. We also awarded \$71,900 to nonprofits on behalf of our employee volunteers through our Grant Incentives for Volunteer Employees program (GIVE).



BLOOD DRIVES

In 2015, our employees donated 4,830 pints of blood, which is enough to save more than 14,000 lives. Our employees in Houston have collected 63,227 units of blood since 2002, enough blood to save 189,681 lives. CenterPoint Energy stands as one of the largest partners for the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, which serves the world’s largest medical complex.

MARCH OF DIMES

Throughout the company footprint, our employees participated in the March for Babies and raised \$143,838 to support the research and programs that help fight infant mortality, birth defects and premature births.

FISHING DERBY

CenterPoint Energy was a proud sponsor of the 10th annual Spina Bifida Fishing Derby at Camp Aldersgate in Little Rock, Ark. Employees and their families volunteered to help the young campers. The derby is a two-day event that allowed 40 campers, ages 6 to 14, to compete for the biggest fish and the most catches.

4,830

PINTS OF BLOOD
donated, saving more than

14,000 lives

\$143,838

raised for
MARCH OF DIMES

\$44,560

raised for
JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT



HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

During the holiday season, many of our employees and their families and friends gave back to our neighbors in need. We donated time and gifts to the Salvation Army Angel Tree campaign and provided bell ringers at the Salvation Army's red kettles. In Houston, the company was one of the sponsors for the Fifth Ward "Christmas in the Nickel," where volunteers spread holiday cheer to local children.

Our employees also donated nearly 3,500 pounds of pet food, benefiting Interfaith Ministries' aniMeals on Wheels program, which provides pet food for homebound seniors who receive support from Meals on Wheels.



\$86,075

raised at **CHARITY SALTWATER**

FISHING TOURNAMENT

benefiting Kids Unlimited
and Cystic Fibrosis Foundations

203,000 volunteer hours valued at

\$4.7 million

according to the Independent Sector

We are Living Our Values



\$82,271

raised for **MS 150**



CenterPoint Energy

2015 Volunteers of the Year



BOBBY RIGGS, underground network tester in Houston, is a strong supporter of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. He and his family have served on a team that cooks for Houston Hurricanes, a special-needs children's group. "I enjoy giving back to the community by raising funds that go toward scholarships for deserving students," said Bobby.



GEORGE BILNOSKI, competitive retailer relations account manager in Houston, has devoted many hours to Rebuilding Together Houston, Junior Achievement and Wesley House Food for the Holidays. "I encourage all first-time volunteers to get involved, meet new people and broaden your horizons," said George. "You will never be on your own, because you have a whole team behind you."



PEGGY JACKSON,

financial analyst in Houston, is a longtime supporter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. After seeing two people with whom she is close diagnosed with diabetes, Peggy decided to do everything she can to help find a cure. She has served in financial roles with this nonprofit and supported its Promise Ball gala. “You don’t know when it could be you or your family that are the ones affected by this disease,” Peggy said. She also volunteers with the Houston CPA Society to provide pro bono services on tax returns.



CARLOS SALINAS,

service technician in Alvin, Texas, has been involved for nearly 14 years in company-sponsored volunteer events. Over the years, his wife and children have been able to volunteer with him as well. “I have learned so much about volunteer service that I am now actively volunteering personally in a men’s group at church that mentors other young men in volunteer service and being good citizens,” Carlos said.



MICHAEL THOMAS,

operations leader in the Houston South District, has been a dedicated supporter of the March of Dimes for more than 30 years. “I believe in supporting the March of Dimes,” said Michael. “My family has been directly affected by a premature birth, and I want to support others who go through this same experience.” He has been a team captain for many years and recruited many new team members to support the cause. “I believe in giving back to the community because I have been so richly rewarded,” he said.

2015 Volunteers of the Year

continued



ANN BARILLEAUX, marketing consultant in Lake Charles, La., serves on the Court Appointed Special Advocates Council and chairs the Family and Youth Board of Directors. “Not having children of my own, I knew that I could have a beneficial and substantial impact for these children who do not have adults looking out for them,” said Ann. In her role, she helps ensure that best practices are maintained and that the program has quality volunteers and adequate financial resources. She also educates the community about the need for this service.



CLAUDE FIGUEROA, marketing consultant in Tyler, Texas, served as a United Way Loaned Executive in 2010 for the Smith County Champions for Children. Since then, he has been an active supporter of this organization. “As a father and a grandfather, I have a special feeling for children in need of the services provided by Champions,” he said. “Anything I can do as a volunteer to help Champions reach these little ones is a wonderful investment.” Claude also serves on the East Texas Workforce Solutions Board.



STEVEN TAYLOR, marketing consultant in Lawton, Okla., is part of the Lawton High School Band booster club. Due to state budget cuts in schools, the booster club was in charge of raising funds to fill the gaps for the band. He and the other band booster members helped organize volunteers to operate the concession stands at the high school’s sports events. He also has seen his volunteer enthusiasm catch on with his children. “When you volunteer, you receive more back than you give,” said Steven. “Volunteering is fulfilling and gratifying. Instead of saying ‘Give until it hurts,’ say ‘Give until it feels good!’”



MICHAEL NEHOTTE,

storekeeper in Minneapolis, volunteers at his children's school and serves as a volunteer coach due to lack of school funds to hire a coach. In 2014, Mike became involved in the Stewardship Mentoring Program through his church. This program helps struggling families take responsibility for their own finances. Volunteers in the program teach families to control their spending and get advice when in doubt. With a helping hand, these families have thrived. Mike believes everyone needs help at some time and that they can overcome almost any challenge with a helping hand. "Be that person who changes someone's life for the better," Mike said.



STEVE OLINGER,

operations specialist in Minneapolis, is an active Junior Achievement volunteer and recruiter of new employee classroom volunteers. He is very proud of his work with JA and the new recruits he has mentored. He has volunteered in some capacity for the past 12 years, but it was not until he found JA that he knew he found his calling. His advice to others is, "Just try volunteering, and keep looking for that special niche that has your name all over it."

2015 Awards

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Ally for Literacy

Houston Center for Literacy

2015 BBB Awards for Excellence

Better Business Bureau of Minnesota
Education Foundation

2015 University of Houston's Distinguished Service Award

Laurie Rutherford

Bronze Service Award

American Red Cross Greater Houston

Bronze Sponsor Award

March of Dimes, Little Rock, Ark.

Community Partnership Award

Galveston Fire Department

Community Spirit Awards,

Angela Cox and Dominic Robinson
Fort Bend Youth in Philanthropy, Texas

Corporate Partner Award

Crime Stoppers of Houston

Corporate Partner of the Year

Habitat for Humanity, Texas

R.I.S.E.S. Award

Memorial Blood Centers, Minnesota

Top 20 Donor

Memorial Blood Centers, Minnesota

Winner of Distinction

Better Business Bureau Education
Foundation Greater Houston and
South Texas

DIVERSITY AWARDS

Rigel Award

Houston Minority Supplier Development
Council

Corporate Diversity Champion Award

Floyd LeBlanc
Diversity Summit

Corporation of the Year

Houston's Women's Business Enterprise
Alliance

EEl Excellence Award in Supplier Diversity

Edison Electric Institute

2020 Board Honor Roll

2020 Women on Boards

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

2015 Project of the Year

Houston Area Urban Forestry Council

Gold Leaf Award, Arbicultural Project of the Year – Tree Planting Competition

International Society of Arboriculture

Mayor's Proud Partner Award

City of Houston

SAFETY AWARDS

City of Houston Proclamation

City of Houston

Safety Video Excellence Award

Southern Gas Association



Floyd LeBlanc (fourth from the right), vice president of Public Affairs and Communications, received the Corporate Diversity Champion Award from a Diversity Summit in Houston. The company was recognized for our impact on communities we serve throughout our service territory.

INDUSTRY AWARDS

Service Award

Southern Gas Association

Silver Award of Merit

American Gas Association Operations

40 Best Energy Companies 2015

Public Utilities Fortnightly

Second in 2015 IOU Utilities Study

American Customer Satisfaction Index

Chronicle 100

The Houston Chronicle

First in Midwest and Second in South

in Operational Satisfaction in Utility

Trusted Brand and Engagement

Residential Study

Cogent Reports

Second in South Region in J.D. Power

2015 Gas Utility Residential Customer

Satisfaction Study

J.D. Power

Third in Midwest in Operational

Satisfaction in Utility Trusted Brand

and Engagement Residential Study

Cogent Reports

Environmental Champion Award

Cogent Reports

HANA Innovation Award

SAP

Meehan Award, Greg Angst

Utilities Telecom Council

Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence

Environmental Protection Agency

Technology Transfer Awards

Electric Power Research Institute

Top honors in Qualitative and Quantitative Market Research

American Marketing Association,

Houston Chapter

Top Innovation Award for Customer Engagement

SAP

Utility of the Year

SAP

Customer Champion in Utility Trusted Brand and Engagement Residential Study

Cogent Reports

2015 Legal Department of the Year for Pro Bono and Community Leadership Category

Texas Lawyer

Top Veteran-Friendly Companies

U.S. Veterans Magazine

Call Center Week Excellence Award winner

Call Center Week



1111 Louisiana Street

Houston, TX 77002

CenterPointEnergy.com/Community