



# Conservation Champs: Reviving a Program

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# History- Energy Champs

- Energy Champs program started in 2011
- Recruit representatives from every Alachua County department
- Training on energy conservation and policies
- Champs were asked to work with their individual offices



# Conservation Champs Objectives

- Promote conservation (add water)
- Lead by example (in-reach)
- Foster cooperation between County Departments



# Stakeholders and Interests

Environmental Protection Department- Water Conservation in-reach, cooperation

Facilities Department- Reduce costs, meet reduction goals

Sustainability Program: meet program goals, gain momentum

Employees/Champs- Save money at work (jobs) and at home

# Timeline

10/12- Individual meetings with stakeholders

11/12- Stakeholder meeting to introduce idea

12/12- Added to Energy Management Team

2/13- Survey completed by past participants

3/13- Design training event

4/13- Presentation to leadership

4/25/13 Training event!

# Accomplishments

- Added to Facilities' Energy Team
- Survey Completed- 42% completion from past Energy Champs
- 20 out of 37 Conservation Champs recruited to date
- Buy-in from County Manager's Office

# NRLI Concepts/Skills

- Considering interests
- Survey
- Icebreakers
- Break out session



# Next Steps

- How to sustain the program and keep participants engaged.
  - Institutionalize it (performance reviews, policies)
- Evaluation
  - Water saving metrics
  - Participation



# Reflections

- Timing is everything!
- Sharing credit but not blame
- Being non-threatening and inclusive has paid off



# Thank You!

- Thank you NRLI Project team and fellows!

