

## **Haven Bills, Southface Institute**

**Title:** Building Capacity Through Resource Efficiency

**Abstract:** Join us as we examine the benefits of resource efficiency to supporting local communities by saving mission-critical dollars. We will highlight project case studies - including return on investment specifics, and explore best practices and lessons learned. Nonprofit organizations often occupy out-of-date, inefficient buildings. Because they are mission focused, they often don't have the capacity to address issues within their buildings, leading to costly utility bills that impact the nonprofit's ability to expand their mission. These out-of-date facilities can negatively affect the health and well-being of the nonprofit's clients and community. Southface, an Atlanta-based nonprofit and leader in sustainability, has recognized this and created successful programs to combat these issues. In partnership with the Kendeda Fund and JPB Foundation, Southface's GoodUse Program and Nonprofit Energy and Water Efficiency (NEWE) Initiative identify and fund high impact/low cost improvements within a nonprofit's facility to increase resource efficiency and save mission-critical dollars on utilities through technical expertise and consultative assistance. Our national partners, Boys and Girls Club of America, Feeding America, and Salvation Army market the value of these programs and resource efficiency as a capacity building strategy directly to their members. Since 2008, over 250 nonprofits nationally have saved 92,088,711 kWh in electricity, 63,816,375 gallons of water, and \$11,123,418 to be reallocated towards their missions. Savings seen by participating Boys and Girls Clubs and food banks are enough to service an additional 239 children each year or an additional 1 million meals to persons in need.