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**Columbus Light & Water receives national award for community service**

**San Diego, California, June 11, 2024** — Columbus Light & Water received an American Public Power Association Sue Kelly Community Service Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in San Diego, California. The award recognizes “good neighbor” activities that demonstrate the commitment of the utility and its employees to the community.

Columbus Light & Water commits itself to not only providing quality service to its 13,000 customers, but also fostering a vibrant community. Utility employees volunteer their time to initiatives including the Adopt-a-School Program, which promotes STEM education and clean energy to more than 1,000 students. Moreover, the utility created the ACTNow Program, which provides internet access, digital devices, and skills training for underserved populations in the community. Through this program, CLW and its partners have provided more than 850 hours of community service to train 240 individuals, many of whom are elderly residents. To help customers encountering financial hardship, the utility also established the CLW Share One Program, which allows customers to donate funds to other residents via their monthly bills, and, in 2023, it partnered with TVA to give $10,000 to Helping Hands, a program that assists customers with utility deposits and past-due bills.

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*The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.*