Like most of Long Island, New York, the city of Long Beach was hit hard by Hurricane Sandy in October 2012. Long Beach is known as the “City by the Sea,” and is surrounded by three channels and the Atlantic Ocean. The fact that Long Beach is a barrier island increased the devastation. Cleanup and reconstruction in Long Beach has been ongoing since the hurricane departed and has not been easy, with residents forced into motels, insurance claims to be filed, and sometimes dealing with unscrupulous or unqualified contractors.

In March, an East Fulton home was the site of an MTV Alternative Spring Break project segment, with area college students and United Way of Long Island YouthBuild students working alongside the crew from Turnabout Heating and Plumbing. The MTV Alternative Spring Break series encourages students to sacrifice the more traditional spring break activities in warm climates to instead work on worthy community projects.

### United Way of Long Island and MTV Alternative Spring Break
assist Hurricane Sandy Victims

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Goals:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved Energy Efficiency</td>
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<tr>
<td>High reliability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Water Supply On-demand</td>
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<td>Comfortable Hydronic Heat</td>
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### Background
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### Installation Summary
The United Way of Long Island has been of tremendous help and assistance to the people of Long Island affected by Hurricane Sandy, and one young family on East Fulton St. in Long Beach has been the beneficiary of United Way help and housing initiatives in alliance with community partners. Their home, which was demolished, is now being rebuilt, and the United Way, working with Long Island manufacturer rep. firm Marplat, which represents Bosch Thermotechnology products, has provided discounted equipment, including a Bosch Greenstar high efficiency gas condensing combi boiler and Buderus S32 indirect hot water storage tank.

**Youthbuild Long Island students give back to the community by working with United Way and MTV Alternative Spring Break.**
In rebuilding the East Fulton Street home, Turnabout Plumbing and Heating installed the compact, high efficiency Greenstar gas condensing boiler in a utility closet on the first floor of the new home, removing all heating equipment from the former basement which had flooded. United Way’s Senior VP for Housing-Green Initiatives, Rick Wertheim, says it’s the perfect wall-hung boiler. It’s direct vent and state-of-the-art,” he explains, “and provides the “comfort and energy savings in a wall-hung boiler” that he’s been looking for.

**Benefits and Conclusion**

“It’s been a difficult time,” says Joe Armellino, who owns Turnabout Plumbing and Heating. Joe explains that people have been unable to find a qualified contractor. Even some responsible contractors, he explains, overwhelmed by the volume of work, are doing faulty installations because they are not following the manufacturer’s installation.

Students and veterans receive hands-on training with the latest equipment and technology at the United Way of Long Island’s 5,000 sq. ft. E3 (Energy-Environment-Education) Training Center in Deer Park, NY. There is a heating lab, with Bosch donated equipment, and a housing frame within the center’s warehouse for training use. The E3 center has qualified for NYSERDA (NY State Energy Research and Development Authority) grants to provide the vocational training.

“We have everything here we need,” says Tim Warnecke, Marplat’s Field Support & Training Technician, “including a Greenstar boiler, Buderus gas condensing boilers, and an oil boiler.” Marplat holds classes every Tuesday for area contractors and also provides instructors for United Way training. “Marplat provides the instruction and the time,” Tim explains, “and Bosch provides the products. The response has been extremely positive.”

**Funding for this project was provided by a grant from the National Grid Foundation to offset the costs of heating system replacements for Hurricane Sandy impacted families.**