



2023

Annual Report



OUR MISSION

Buildings account for 40% of global carbon emissions – but that can change.

Phius passive building principles offer a solution for existing and new construction buildings that affords them the resilience and efficiency necessary to be part of the climate solution.

Phius works to foster a built environment that supports the health of people and the planet.

We strive to mitigate the climate crisis by advancing the adoption of healthy, efficient, and sustainable passive buildings.

A Message from our Executive Director

Last year was dense. So much happened I am having trouble putting events in chronological order. I am not alone. The Phius team felt a seismic shift in the building industry. This year, things the passive building community has worked for (and dreamed of) became reality. We have our passionate community to thank!

Across the country, people are pushing and pulling, advancing high-performance building from the ground up and the codes down. What does this mean for Phius?

Building certifications and new submissions have outpaced all previous years. The Phius Certification Team expanded, as did other departments. The number of total staff peaked recently at 25 including interns, not including the consultants who help us deliver training and verify product performance.

As for myself, I won't lie: this year has been a challenge. A "be careful what you wish for" kind of thing. Where is this ride going? How to prepare for what is next? Year-end inspires pondering, reassessment, evaluation.

I am happy to report that we reached two long-time strategic partnership goals: I am thrilled that we'll join Greenbuild in Philly in 2024, helping to spread our community's knowledge to a bigger, broader audience. We need the entire sustainability community to come together. (We promise, we won't lose the personal touch. That's in our DNA.)

We reached a second long-standing strategic goal just before year-end: WUFI® Passive will transition into the cloud and be enhanced with tools you have long been asking for. Workflows will become easier, more precise, more efficient and less costly. I can't wait for that launch in the coming year.

I'll Close with an observation from Operations Director Mike Knezovich on the rapid growth process we just went through: "This year, [Phius] went from adolescence to adulthood."

We are ready for 2024.



Katrin Klingenberg

Co-Founder & Executive Director

PROJECT CERTIFICATION

Passive Building Boom Continues

The ongoing surge of Phius project certifications continued in 2023, especially in the multifamily sector:

- **49%** increase in projects Final Certified
- **154** projects Design Certified
- **416** total projects Certified as of 2023
- **5.1 million** total ft² Certified as of 2023

13.4 M

Square feet of projects
Design Certified to date

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

1,024

Registrations for Phius training courses in 2023

506

People became new Phius Certified Professionals

Building a Phius Workforce

Hundreds of professionals from across the United States and beyond participated in Phius professional training courses online and in person in 2023. Phius' training and technical staff also worked on the development of two new professional training programs scheduled to launch in early 2024.

2023 EVENTS

PhiusCon and Beyond

PhiusCon 2023 in Houston ignited passive building interest in a crucial emerging market, while the spring Retrofit Summit showcased techniques to bring existing buildings up to passive standards.

Over 500 attendees joined us in Houston, Texas for PhiusCon, igniting further interest in passive building in a crucial emerging market.

500+
attendees

45
US states

6
countries

ALLIANCE UPDATES

A Flourishing Community

The Phius Alliance saw a significant boost in membership in addition to adding two new chapters to anchor Phius activity in Rhode Island and Cascadia.

The Phius Alliance is comprised of a diverse mix of architects, builders, policymakers, raters and more who are responsible for advancing the adoption of passive building principles throughout the country and beyond.



1,500+

Phius Alliance members
across eight chapters

NEW INITIATIVES

Set to launch in early 2024, the self-paced **Passive Building Foundations Training** teaches the core concepts of passive building and Phius. The new Phius Associate designation will be awarded to those who complete the training and pass the exam.

Also slated for an early 2024 launch, the new **Phius Trades Training** program provides building construction professionals with the specialized knowledge and expertise necessary to implement passive building designs in the construction of Phius projects.

The decade old Phius Window and Door Certification Program received a major protocol update. In 2024, the existing **Phius Certified Window Database** will be relaunched with a completely redesigned interface.



2023

REVENUE SUMMARY

Revenue Sources, 2023

- 41% Professional Training & Exams
- 34% Building Certification
- 13% Phius Events
- 6% Other Programs
- 5% Phius Alliance
- 1% Grants & Donations



Total Revenue, 2021–2023

2021

\$1,901,076

2022

\$2,281,495

2023

\$2,968,333

ADVANCING POLICY

Qualified Action Plans (QAPs) are documents that lay out the criteria for application to receive the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC).

Twenty-one states include Phius in their QAPs.

This valuable incentive helps affordable housing developers to pursue Phius certification.

Energy codes are the minimum energy efficiency requirements that a building must achieve. **Stretch codes** work to push those requirements further. **Alternative compliance paths** offer options to meet stretch codes.

Phius Certification is listed as an alternative compliance path in Denver, New York state, Washington state, Illinois, and Massachusetts.

21

states list Phius in their Qualified Action Plans

5

states reference Phius in their stretch energy code

8

states have Phius-related incentives for projects

Incentives help offset the costs of realizing the energy goals laid out by state agencies. Phius-related incentives are available in these states and municipalities:

- Connecticut
- Illinois
- Massachusetts
- New York
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Seattle, Washington

ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Our industry-leading technical team conducts passive building research and continues the advancement of Phius and passive building principles.

The team conducted exhaustive modeling to further refine the Phius 2021 building standards, to be released as Phius 2024. This update includes the revolutionary **REVIVE 2024 retrofit standard**. REVIVE 2024 is an innovative and adaptable passive retrofit standard guided by resilience and designed to minimize operational and embodied carbon emissions. Set for a mid-2024 launch, this standard will utilize a newly developed software tool also created by the Phius R&D team.

We developed the **“Architect’s Guide to Ultra-Low-Energy Buildings, Microgrids, & Direct Current”** with funding from the AIA Upjohn Research Initiative grant. The guide assists architects and other building professionals in navigating the rapidly emerging design issues associated with decarbonization and resilience.

