

2021 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

Project Summaries by EPA Region

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) Program provides funding directly to community-based organizations and tribes for projects that help residents of underserved communities understand and address local environmental and public health issues. The term “underserved community” refers to a community with environmental justice concerns and/or vulnerable populations, including people of color, low income, rural, tribal, indigenous, and homeless populations. The long-term goals of the program are to support underserved communities in their efforts to build their overall capacity and create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will improve local environments in the future. In 2021, 99 organizations nationwide were selected to receive awards totaling approximately \$7.4 million in grant funding. Individual grants are for up to \$75,000 each for one-year projects. These grants will benefit communities in 37 different states, as well as Washington DC and Puerto Rico.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding and COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts on Underserved Communities

Approximately \$5.25 million of funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) will support these projects. These ARP funds were appropriated to EPA for grants that address health outcome disparities from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic and that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income populations through activities authorized by section 103(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7403(b)) and section 1442(c)(3) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-1(c)).

Small Nonprofit Designation with set-aside funds

In 2021, for the first time ever, EPA created a designation for small nonprofit organizations and set-aside funding exclusively for those qualifying organizations. A small nonprofit is defined as a non-profit organization with 10 or fewer full-time employees on staff. This set-aside is intended to promote environmental justice funding to those communities and grassroots organizations that need it the most. 83 of the 99 projects (84%) are going to qualifying small nonprofits. The remaining 16 projects are going to larger nonprofit organizations and tribal governments.

Ports Initiative Projects

EPA’s Ports Initiative program led by the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) is providing additional funding for projects addressing clean air issues at coastal and inland ports and railyards. These projects will prepare underserved communities to engage with operators and other stakeholders of nearby port and rail facilities to address diesel engine emissions. Seven (7) Ports Initiative projects have been selected for funding.

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REGION 1

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1) Center for Whole Communities (Burlington, VT)

Center for Whole Communities is a small non-profit that plans to create the Vermont Environmental Justice (VT-EJ) Network that will strategically build on work addressing local environmental and public health issues, drawing on findings and results from project partners' research on COVID-19 vulnerabilities, EJ mapping, and community surveys. The demographics and rural setting of Vermont can hide environmental injustices in the state's communities; however, issues of water quality, indoor air quality, energy affordability, transportation access, food insecurity, and associated health risks disproportionately affect low-income populations and communities of color. The VT-EJ Network will bridge overburdened community members with decision-makers at the state and local level, fostering relationships and creating continuity between communities and government, increasing accessibility of information and resources, and supporting context-sensitive communication. Long term, the VT-EJ Network will strengthen communities' ability to equitably distribute environmental burdens and benefits.

2) GreenRoots (Chelsea, MA)

GreenRoots is a small non-profit that plans to create a comprehensive multi-stakeholder, community-led task force addressing air quality concerns in Chelsea and East Boston, MA. In April 2021, GreenRoots received \$200,000 from the MA Attorney General's Office as part of a settlement for air quality violations. Funding from the MA Attorney General's Office will be used to purchase air purifiers for homes in Chelsea impacted by poor air quality. GreenRoots' EJ Small Grant project will ensure this program has robust community engagement and is a replicable model for other EJ communities. The EJ Small Grant will support the facilitation of a resident-led, multi-stakeholder task force to understand and analyze air quality data collected; translate and share data out easily, accessibly and multilingually; collaborate with air quality experts, health institutions and city partners to best determine air filter distribution; develop strategies to ensure regular air filter use; and lastly, it will support information gathering to determine if the filters are improving health and quality of life and if there are potential policy changes that could lead to lasting air quality improvements.

3) Speak for the Trees (Watertown, MA)

Speak for the Trees based in Watertown, MA, is a small non-profit that plans to improve the size, health, and equity of Boston's urban forest. The proposed project, "Community Tree Stories," will increase awareness and dialogue surrounding inequitable tree canopy cover and its implications on the health of residents living in EJ communities. The project will be conducted in partnership with community-based organizations and nonprofits who will co-develop a series of community tree walks in three neighborhoods for residents, municipal officials, and researchers to explore and deepen their understanding of the intersections of environmental justice, clean air, and tree canopy cover. Through survey collection, storytelling, and community engagement, the project will incubate partnerships and develop shared visions for an urban forest that provides public health benefits.

Data and information collection will also nurture a partnership with American Forests in developing a community-informed Tree Equity Score Analyzer (TESA) for Boston. TESA will define and refine future tree equity work in Boston, enabling residents, grassroots organizations, elected officials, and City of Boston staff to create parcel-scale tree planting scenarios for environmental and public health benefits.

4) Refugee Development Center (Providence, RI)

Refugee Development Center based in Providence, RI, is a small non-profit that seeks to address housing safety and prevent lead poisoning among refugees in Rhode Island. The project will focus on increasing awareness about lead safety and decrease the incidence of lead poisoning among refugees. Refugee Development Center plans to conduct preventative home visits and phone check-ins on lead safety with refugee families in collaboration with relevant partners. The project's long-term goal is to increase knowledge about lead safety in the refugee community and for participants in the project to spread awareness among their family and friends.

5) Regional Environmental Council (Worcester, MA)

Regional Environmental Council based in Worcester, MA, is a small non-profit that aims to increase the accessibility and affordability of healthy food for residents of Worcester's low-income neighborhoods by creating a more equitable and sustainable regional food system. This project seeks to promote community health and welfare by increasing public education and building local capacity to address climate change by training urban gardeners in best practices for urban food gardening techniques that promote climate resilience. The project will educate and train growers at approximately 60 community and school garden sites in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color to engage in healthy soil and bio growth practices that sequester carbon and will create a network of skilled community volunteers to support this project.

6) Mystic River Watershed Association (Arlington, MA)

This project plans to increase understanding of residents' current experience of extreme heat and housing and food insecurity in Everett, MA, in order to implement climate resilience efforts and ensure that potential strategies to combat these issues do not increase social inequities, such as gentrification and displacement of lower-income and working-class residents. The project seeks to: examine policies, plans and programs that were activated during the pandemic via municipal and community-based organizations in Everett through participatory research; identify if strategies are adaptable or can be improved upon for long-term climate resilience, with a particular focus on extreme heat and housing and food insecurity; and determine resident-led policy, systems and environmental change strategies to combat extreme heat and housing and food insecurity.

7) New Haven Ecology Project (New Haven, CT)

New Haven Ecology Project, based in New Haven, CT, plans to inspire New Haven residents to grow food locally and build the City's capacity to improve air quality and public health. The organization's project aims to create spaces for community knowledge sharing that amplify local experts and youth voices regarding climate friendly food by utilizing its farm to create an intensive learning experience for summer farm interns and a Green Jobs Corps crew. The organization focuses on learning and leadership, inviting people across ages and identities to connect to their urban environment, build community, grow into their full potential, and contribute to a just and sustainable role. Through an

established network of connections in New Haven, the New Haven Ecology Project will create a welcoming learning space to engage approximately 175 people for an annual conference and five smaller workshops, including youth workshops.

8) Katherine Sebastian Dring/Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation (North Stonington, CT)

Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation is a state recognized Tribal government located in Connecticut and a small non-profit that plans to expand a Native Farm to School Program that promotes healthy eating, growing techniques and traditional native crops at schools, and on its reservation at the Mary Momoho Community Garden for children and adults. The community garden supports a long-standing food pantry program that provides healthy food bundles for tribal members and other individuals in need of assistance. The Tribe plans to invite students to its 220-acre reservation in North Stonington, CT to learn about and participate in the community garden, participate in air and water quality testing and receive environmental education. The project seeks to expand the Tribe's food pantry effort by expanding the garden to carry out the project, yield more crops, water collection and irrigation, outfit a complete solar green energy system for the processing station, educational environment, and zero carbon footprint community center.

9) Towers Foundation (New Haven, CT)

Towers Foundation, based in New Haven, CT, is a small non-profit that proposes to revitalize a 13,300 square foot area on its residential campus in downtown New Haven by building a functioning community garden for low-income seniors, neighbors, and community partners. The project's objective is to provide environmental and nutritional assets that will lead to higher quality of life and stronger community health. The proposed outcomes of this project would improve air quality and green space from added trees, plants, and shade; reduced food insecurity; increased nutritional health from consuming fresh fruits and vegetables; and expanded socialization opportunities through activities with other residents, families, friends, and neighbors. EPA funds will be used to conduct recruitment efforts for project participants, develop a services and volunteering plan with community partner organizations, and create a hands-on "seed to sapling to harvest" program in the revitalized space.

10) Greater Dwight Development Corporation (New Haven, CT)

Greater Dwight Development Corporation, based in New Haven, CT, is a small non-profit that seeks to address longstanding, neighborhood-scale environmental justice and health concerns through the development of a new action-oriented plan for the Greater Dwight neighborhood, framed around health and the environment. The organization plans to partner with the Yale University Urban Design Workgroup and others to conduct a community engagement and planning process focused on addressing air quality and urban heat island effect concerns; develop research on environmental conditions in the neighborhood, including air quality monitoring; and develop a web-based neighborhood planning document, including a GIS-based, real-time dashboard of air quality in the neighborhood. The proposed outcomes of this project would improve air quality and green space from added trees, plants, and shade; reduced food insecurity; increased nutritional health from consuming fresh fruits and vegetables; and expanded socialization opportunities through activities with other residents, families, friends, and neighbors.

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1) Van Cortlandt Park Alliance, Inc (Bronx, NY)

This project aims to educate underserved teens located in the Bronx, New York on how to reduce solid waste through waste management and broadening their understanding of natural resources. Through hands-on experience, Van Cortlandt Park Alliance, Inc will educate project participants and community members on solid waste management by collecting and processing scraps in compost bins, demonstrate sustainable gardening practices, and hosting educational programs on composting. Direct beneficiaries for this project are residents of the Bronx, New York.

2) The Place for Learning dba Long Island Science Center (Riverhead, NY)

This project intends to train undeserved, diverse students and resident of Riverhead and Riverside, New York through monitoring, testing, investigating, and reporting while learning about the health of our local ecosystem and air quality. The Place for Learning intends to provide hands-on field exploration and data collection programs in both English & Spanish to create an accessible bi-lingual community resource and teaching tool that will create job pipelines for participants to interact and solve problems collectively with professional scientists and projects around the world. Our project will explore fresh recreational water quality test for the presence of cyanobacteria and water quality, inform on potential health effects, monitor, and educate the public on air quality issues and health effects, and search for potential aquatic invasive species. Also, the applicant will use education & training to increase awareness of how critical environmental issues which impact the health of residents and the local ecosystems. Direct beneficiaries for this project are resident of Riverhead and Riverside, New York.

3) Atlantic State Legal Foundation (Syracuse, NY)

Atlantic State Legal Foundation and its project partners intends to increase the project participants' awareness on stormwater management and air quality. Through a demonstration agroforestry project, the residents of Syracuse and Onondaga, will be trained on how to reduce volatile compounds, particulate matter, water pollution and stormwater entering municipal sewer systems. Outreach and education will focus on communicating the benefits of agroforestry and urban trees as they relate to stormwater mitigation, air quality improvement, food security, greenspace access, urban heat island mitigation, and urban resilience. Direct beneficiaries for this project are residents of Syracuse and Onondaga, New York.

4) Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice (Bronx, NY)

This project intends to train youth leaders in the South Bronx section of the Bronx, New York on the potential environmental and health effects of air quality and how to mitigate air pollution in their community. In addition, Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice (YMPJ) will conduct an analysis of air quality data collected in the South Bronx to determine correlation between South Bronx air quality, air pollution, respiratory illness and the link between air quality and COVID-Transmission and poor health. The result of the analysis be widely disseminated, in the form of trainings, speaker series; public outreach and education activities, and a Virtual Symposium, to increase awareness

and to residents with continued education on the causes and deleterious effects of air pollution including COVID-19 and the steps community members can take to protect themselves from air pollution exposure and poor health outcomes. Direct beneficiaries are residents of the South Bronx section of the Bronx, New York.

5) Rockaway Waterfront Alliance, Inc dba RISE Rockaway (Far Rockaway, NY)

Rockaway Waterfront Alliance through their project titled “Shore Corps – environmental stewards youth internship and workforce development program” aims to ensure a healthy and resilient Rockaway by conducting an internship program to engages the community youth to learn about stewardship and environmental conservation projects. High schoolers gain hands-on experience through tree maintenance, organized beach clean ups, and dune restoration, alongside critical workforce and leadership training. The program will also incorporate vaccine education to tackle the urgent health disparities in our local community. Activities will culminate in a one-day mini-conference for at least 75 attendees and the project will serve the predominantly very low to moderate income communities of color on the eastern end of the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens, New York. Direct beneficiaries are resident of Far Rockaway, New York.

6) Groundwork Elizabeth (Elizabeth, NJ)

Groundwork Elizabeth and its project partners will bring together a diverse coalition of community stakeholders that will increase particulate matter (PM) monitoring, define PM health costs in Elizabeth (near Port-Elizabeth Marine Terminal), explore biodiesel as a strategy to reduce emissions, and develop a Community Action Plan for reducing PM in the community. The project will also increase knowledge and awareness of air quality and its health effects in the community.

7) Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services, Inc (Rochester, NY)

This project aims to educate the angler community located in Rochester, New York on the potential environmental and public health issues surrounding local fish consumption. Rochester Refugee Resettlement Services will engage high school and college aged students to survey local angler and analyzed the data and develop learning objective, design formats and deliver meaningful, outreach messaging for improved fish advisory communications with local anglers. Direct beneficiaries are residents of Rochester, New York.

8) Ironbound Community Corporation (Newark, NJ)

The Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) and its project partner, South Ward Environmental Alliance (SWEA), will conduct outreach and recruit residents to workshops, trainings, and presentations to prepare them to participate in truck counting days in neighborhoods near the Port of Newark, and to develop preferences regarding pollution prevention strategies. These truck counts will highlight the truck traffic and diesel pollution in residents’ neighborhoods and will be followed by a report back to the community to help build a base of residents committed towards fighting for a healthy Port of Newark.

9) Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable (Buffalo, NY)

Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable (SBR) will partner with various local community

organization located in Buffalo, New York to increase local residents' awareness on climate vulnerability issues in their community, such as air quality, and the potential environmental and public health harms and risks. Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable will educate residents to better understand climate vulnerability issues in their community and develop a community driven climate resiliency plan. Direct beneficiaries are residents of Buffalo, New York.

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1) Common Good City Farm (Washington, DC)

Common Good City Farm will focus on reducing the impact of agriculture on the environment by educating participants in practical, hands-on, evidence-based techniques, with a specific focus on soil carbon sequestration in agriculture as part of their Certificate Program in Regenerative Urban Agriculture. Focusing on marginalized communities within the Washington, DC Metropolitan region, this proposal plans to expand this educational opportunity to high school students who are studying biotechnology or interested in careers in agriculture. The project aims to increase the number of urban farmers using regenerative agriculture techniques; increase the number of urban farms and farmers; and reduce vehicle miles traveled to obtain food by producing it locally.

2) Green & Healthy Home Initiative (Baltimore, MD)

The Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), founded in 1986, serves the Baltimore, MD community by providing comprehensive housing assessment and intervention services. This project highlights the impact, especially for underserved communities residing in hazardous housing, of spending additional time indoors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will include community-wide outreach and education, workforce training, in-home housing environmental assessments, and hazard remediation resource coordination for approximately one hundred households with a focus on lead in drinking water and indoor air quality.

3) Green Treks Network, Inc (Philadelphia, PA)

Green Treks is a non-profit multimedia and educational organization working closely with the predominantly black neighborhoods of the Germantown section of Philadelphia. This project will build upon the initial efforts of the Germantown Community Flood Risk Management Task Force by collaborating with their network of partners, leveraging creative community engagement efforts around flooding and climate change. The project will develop a series of micro-documentaries which share community members' stories of being impacted by floods, and a companion series of solution-oriented multimedia materials outlining individual and collective ways for people to be better prepared. The materials will be broadly disseminated by partners through social media networks, websites, e-newsletters, and community events.

4) Green Building United (Wilmington, DE)

Green Building United (GBU) and partners in Northeast Wilmington will develop and implement a year-long program of community engagement and education opportunities to foster discussions on community readiness for anticipating, preparing for, and responding to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate and environmental impacts. The project will build community capacity to address both the social and built environment dimensions of climate change, understanding that weather extremes and substandard housing disproportionately affect low-income communities, and that affordable housing solutions need to include efficient and affordable solutions that ensure clean air, water, and energy. This project will also lay the groundwork for future endeavors, including the development of Resilience Hubs - neighborhood designed centers that help residents build climate resiliency.

5) Baltimore Green Space (Baltimore, MD)

Baltimore Green Space aims to improve the health and accessibility of urban forest patches that provide residents with heat relief and contribute to improving the air quality in underserved neighborhoods. The project will include the following activities to achieve this objective: Field research will be conducted by graduate students from Morgan State University and/or University of Maryland, Baltimore County to determine how much progress has been made in improving the health of 10 forests that we first surveyed in 2016. At least 10 neighborhood Forest Stewards and 200 Baltimore City residents will be educated about the importance of forest patches in mitigating neighborhood heat islands and trained in maintenance efforts such as invasive vine removal.

6) Resilient Virginia (Lynchburg, VA)

Resilient Virginia intends to address flooding and water quality issues by engaging low-income, neighborhoods of color, which are disproportionately impacted by these hazards, to better understand their risks and to develop community capacity to address them. The project will collect data to assemble the latest hazard, climate, and demographic information to identify vulnerable communities. Outcomes of this project include updates to the local hazard mitigation plan and a future local resiliency plan.

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1) Toxic Free NC, (Durham, NC)

Through an Environmental Justice Academy, this project will provide environmental health education for Latinx immigrant community members of rural eastern North Carolina, a population that is inequitably impacted by climate events and multiple sources of pollution from nearby farms and industry. In recent years, rural North Carolina has faced increasing threats to clean air and water from PFAS “forever chemical” pollution, overflowing waste from swine operations and coal ash ponds, contamination from hurricane floodwaters, as well as heightened risks of exposure to pervasive agrochemicals. Over the course of a year, participants will attend a series of five Spanish-language workshops paired in rotation with five experiential activities/site visits, with the goals of increasing awareness about environmental health issues and their cumulative impact, building leadership skills for confidence in advocacy, and providing concrete opportunities for stakeholder engagement with decision-makers. The project will be based at the Episcopal Farmworker Ministry in Dunn, NC, which serves as a hub for farmworkers and rural Latinx residents in the surrounding counties.

2) Greater-Birmingham Alliance to Stop Pollution (GASP) - Birmingham, AL

The goals of this project are to 1) launch a community needs assessment survey to gauge residents health concerns and needs; 2) deploy at least 20 digital air sensors in the community to analyze the levels of particulate matter that are emitted from several industrial sources in the area, 3) train residents to report air quality incidents; 4) address air pollution, blight and urban heat island effect simultaneously by planting native trees, 5) alleviate food insecurity through community gardens and pop-up markets. This project seeks to engage in citizen science activities such as conducting air pollutant measurements and collecting air samples. Addressing these issues in an intersectional way (e.g., addressing blight and urban heat island effect via trees) will reduce redundancy and increase effectiveness and bring more partners into the fold. The findings and public engagement from this project will offer numerous public health and welfare benefits to this underserved community.

3) Young Teen Asthma & Wellness Camp, Inc. (Birmingham, AL)

The project will provide asthma self-management education and wellness activities to youth in three rural Alabama counties and statewide underserved populations of Medicaid recipients. The camp is provided by an interprofessional team from nursing, respiratory therapy, pharmacy, social work, physical therapy, nutrition, and medicine. School nurses will lead school-based teams of nurses, counselors, nutrition managers, coaches, and health science students from three rural schools. One hundred fifty (150) campers ages 12-15 in middle school will learn to manage their asthma and increase fitness and nutrition.

4) Environmental Community Action (ECO Action) - Atlanta, GA

ECO-Action’s project, *Building the Capacity and Resilience of Low-Income Atlanta Neighborhoods to Equitably Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change*, seeks to increase the ability of low-income, Atlanta community members to remain resilient in the face of climate change. The program also seeks to increase support for community-driven strategies for climate change resilience and adaption. Program activities will: 1) recruit approximately 60 participants and finalize session topics

with community representatives, 2) provide training to enable participants to develop personal resiliency plans, 3) conduct group resiliency activities, 4) identifying collective strategies for climate adaption or enhanced climate resilience, and 5) hosting a 100-person community forum to gain consensus for the developed community-based strategies.

5) Sustaining Way (Greenville, SC)

To increase civic engagement, address environmental and public health threats, and drive community progress, Sustaining Way will collaborate with residents of the low-income, minority New Washington Heights community in Greenville County, SC to complete an intensive, months-long community building and participatory leadership training series; develop and implement a community training and public education plan anchored by the Lowcountry Alliance for Model Communities' Environmental Justice Academy; complete two learning tours of environmental justice communities in South Carolina; and update the community master plan to incorporate environmental and public health goals for the community.

6) New Hope Community Development, Inc. (Greensboro, NC)

This project aims to increase knowledge about environmental factors that contribute to indoor air health concerns due to the COVID-19 stay-at-home orders in the Cottage Grove and adjacent neighborhoods of Greensboro, NC. The outcomes are increased knowledge, improved home environments and reduced social isolation. Activities include individual and community training sessions, distribution of information and resources for informed choices to improve home air quality. Through telephone and face-to-face assessments, New Hope Community Development will evaluate if residents have indoor air issues that have increased due to COVID-19. 100 elderly residents will be targeted for this project and will receive green cleaning kits.

7) 2C Mississippi (Ridgeland, MS)

This project aims to both raise awareness of the health threats that extreme heat events pose through focus groups, workshops, surveys, and informal conversations with residents; but also present residents with a variety of heat mitigation options they can develop in more depth, such as heat alerts, support networks, and community gardens. Participating communities will be selected using a combination of existing heat-mapping data, community interest, and socio-economic indicators such as health outcomes and vulnerabilities.

8) Sundari Foundation, Inc (Miami, FL)

This grant will support Sundari Foundation's *Lotus House*, a women and children's shelter, by increasing environmental justice for those who are amongst the most vulnerable in our communities. The Shelter serves approximately 1,300 high special needs women, youth and children experiencing homelessness in Miami-Dade County. Staff and project partners will provide weekly information/education to shelter residents to increase their knowledge of COVID-19 prevention and treatment, including access to testing, vaccines and health care via partners.

9) Clean Air Carolina (Charlotte, NC)

This project will engage residents in Healthy Air Education and Clean Air Advocacy training, by expanding local air quality monitoring with portable sensors and installing a Level 2 EV charging station. Project participants will also develop a "Historic West End Environmental Justice" educational video. The video will explore sources of pollution the community faces, the health benefits of a Historic West End Green District and offer ways for community members to get

involved to mitigate air pollution. The desired outcomes from these activities are to increase resident understanding of health risks from air pollution and measures to reduce risks, expand local air monitoring to protect health, and provide equitable access to the benefits of green infrastructure.

10) Institute for the Advancement of Minority Health (Ridgeland, MS)

The target populations of this project are the rural communities of Bolton, Edwards, Jackson, Raymond, Terry and Utica located in Hinds County, Mississippi. Project activities include: 1) creating a community advisory council; 2) Expanding the Institute's existing community health training curriculum to include a culturally appropriate COVID-19 training module; 3) developing a linguistically and culturally competent communications campaign; 4) administering a survey to determine the environmental factors that influence the transmission of COVID-19 in the target population; and 5) conducting community outreach and education.

11) Roanoke Economic Development, Inc. (Rich Square, NC)

This project will address air pollution and climate change through the development of a regional electric vehicle charger installation plan to promote EV use and accessibility by minority and low-income populations. Specific project activities include: EV Surveys; mapping existing station locations; educating fleets about potential charging; meeting with public and stakeholders to identify new charging needs and provide draft plan feedback; and identifying activities to promote equitable transportation electrification. This project will target five rural poor counties in northeast NC: Bertie, Gates, Halifax, Hertford and Northampton.

12) Bonifay Main Street Assoc. (Bonifay, FL)

The Bonifay Green Spark project is a garden/food-based program that provides hands-on environmental literacy education/training/development opportunities that will give residents the ability to engage in nature through the cultivation of a food garden and distribution center in the heart of a low-income community. Project goals are as follows: (1) increase the number of residents that know about food scarcity, composting/organic waste, and use of safe pesticides, (2) increase the number of residents and businesses that grow healthy foods to encourage shopping local, and (3) increase the number of retail businesses that sell healthy foods in the neighborhood to eliminate long distance travel, lowering emissions. (4) Integrate a long-lasting education and training program that involves new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches; where the results of the project will be shared so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained for future projects, (5) create jobs that have an interest in environmental change and effectiveness for future generations.

13) Nettles Foundation (Moss Point, MS)

The Nettles Foundation will implement a healthy homes campaigns to promote and share information about in-home environmental and health hazards that may increase vulnerability due to extended periods indoors because of COVID-19. The focus will be for residents of low to moderate income in underserved communities. The foundation will develop emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency plans and programs for underserved communities and vulnerable populations to minimize the exposure to pollutants in the event of a natural disaster. The activities will include training sessions, program and plan developments, and public education. The project will increase the knowledge of the underserved communities about the effect of COVID-19 and the steps needed for prevention, it will also increase the readiness for natural disasters. The program will be measured through surveys, participant lists, and other data collected during the

program. The geographic areas of focus are Harrison and Jackson Counties along the Mississippi Gulf Coast in low-income areas with high risks of reoccurring natural disasters and areas of high concentration of low-income minority residents.

14) Girls First, Inc (Stockbridge, GA)

Through this project, Girls First will collaborate with multiple local partners to plan a local community garden. This partnership group will provide guidance, consultation, and volunteerism for the initiative and donate land for the garden and assist with land cultivation. The project will conduct education and training activities that teach local students how to grow and maintain a community garden. The garden will reduce food miles traveled and provide local nutritious options for residents.

REGION 5

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1) Latino Academy of Workforce Development (LAWD) - Madison, WI

This project will provide education and training to the LAWD Bilingual Leadership Academy (BLA) participants who will help set community priorities for air quality improvement for the Latinx community in the southside of Madison and Fitchburg, which has disproportionate exposure to polluted air. Outputs include a bilingual curriculum, trained academy leaders who will teach and engage others, feedback collected on community priorities and five coalition meetings of those interested in advancing air quality priorities for the Latinx community. Outcomes include increased awareness on air quality, increased participation in community decision making, and increased engagement and empowerment for climate resilient Latinx communities.

2) Detroiters Working for EJ (DWEJ) - Detroit/Highland Park, MI

DWEJ and its partners will develop a decarbonization contractor accelerator program. The goal is to recruit, support, and train local Minority- and Women- Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) contractors about public health and environmental/climate justice issues and solutions to air pollution, notably decarbonization through electrification and solar energy. Proposed training will include best practices and resources for appropriate lead and asbestos removal. The goal for educating minority contractors in emerging fields for healthy homes is to ramp up their capacity for hiring the local workforce themselves, educate their respective communities, and be able to compete for larger infrastructure projects.

3) People for Community Recovery (PCR) - Chicago, IL

The project area has a long history of industrial pollution and related adverse health effects and high poverty rates. As a result, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on residents. Support services, educational information, and vaccine access has been slow to reach the project area. The main objectives of this project are education and mobilization designed to increase COVID-19 mitigating behaviors (e.g., use of approved sanitizers, vaccine utilization, practicing social distancing, etc.) and improved community health. PCR and its partners will accomplish these goals by establishing a Community Action Board of trusted neighborhood residents to educate the community about the link between environmental justice and COVID-19; provide critical information

and resources through a minimum of six community health seminars; planning for vaccine drives and a minimum of one townhall meeting designed to provide broad recommendations for improving community health and prioritize actionable items.

4) Milwaukee Water Commons (Milwaukee, WI)

This project will support the Milwaukee Environmental Justice Roundtable, a collaborative forum coordinated by Milwaukee Water Commons that intentionally brings together multi-racial community leaders – centering communities of color and Indigenous communities, and their allies – to facilitate inclusion of environmental justice principles in all levels of policy and decision-making at the intersection of the environment, health, and racial justice. Through a collective impact model, the Milwaukee Environmental Justice Roundtable engages community members and the community organizations they work with – especially those not traditionally aligned with the environmental movement – around issues and provides the information, understanding and tools they need to create impact. Grant funds will be used to provide needed staffing and other support to Roundtable participants to support their development of community-driven policy solutions and engagement of policymakers on issues critical to increasing environmental justice in Milwaukee and statewide.

5) Neighborhood Hub (Minneapolis, MN)

The Neighborhood Hub’s Community Solar Garden Model project will ultimately reduce energy bill burdens on residents, reduce GHG emissions, create pathways to green local jobs, increase climate resilience and provide a stable, multi-decade funding source to participating Minneapolis neighborhood councils. A collaborative workgroup of community residents, youth and neighborhood organizations will create the framework for development of a guidebook for community solar garden development in Minneapolis neighborhoods. Project activities will include: 1) Development of an outreach strategy to survey and recruit Northside Green Zone community residents, youth and neighborhood organizations; 2) workshops on current energy infrastructure, environmental racism and health disparities in the Northside Green Zone, renewable energy solutions’ positive health and economic impacts and green job training opportunities; 3) four demonstration field trips tours of nearby green job training center and community solar gardens

6) We Want Green Too (Detroit, MI)

We Want Green, Too’s (WWG2) community-driven iCAN program aims to decrease air pollution, unemployment, and improve public health by training underserved Black residents, homeless residents, and Veterans with PTSD in Detroit’s East Side. iCAN activities will include: 1) attaining solar-installation and instructor certifications for one person to set up a community solar training program and start training ten individuals, 2) conducting energy efficiency retrofitting classes to prepare trainees for jobs in energy efficiency, and 3) conducting door-to-door outreach and public education through five community forums. By equipping Detroit’s underserved residents with skills in solar installation and energy efficient retrofits, WWG2 and partners envision these individuals leading the community toward energy efficiency and improved public health.

7) Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy (SBLC) - Bay City, MI

SBLC seeks to implement anti-illegal dumping measures, install green infrastructure, and provide public education related to proper disposal of waste. As a result of this effort, illegal dumping will be reduced in the city and vacant property can be leveraged as an asset to help revitalize disinvested neighborhoods. SBLC will utilize a strong network of volunteers, creation of seasonal summer jobs,

and research on industry standards and best practices related to vacant land management to tackle this complex issue affecting quality of life in the community.

8) Groundwork Ohio River Valley (GORV) - Cincinnati, OH

This project will compile neighborhood and individual-level air toxin exposure rates through citizen-driven air quality monitoring efforts and use the data to advocate for mitigation efforts at rail yards and other industrial facilities in the area. Additionally, approximately 100 GORV Green Team Youth Employee Workforce employees and 10 neighborhood residents will be trained on air quality monitoring techniques and air pollution health education. Monitoring reports from the project will be incorporated into neighborhood resilience plans.

9) Midwest Bikeshare, Inc. (Milwaukee, WI)

This project will provide classes detailing information on the bikeshare system, safe urban cycling practices, current best practices related to COVID-19, and the role of physical activity in reducing the negative health impacts of air pollution especially as they relate to the health effects of COVID. The anticipated short-term outputs include: improved understanding of the bikeshare system, increased confidence and safety cycling in the urban environment, better understanding of current best COVID practices and the role of physical activity in reducing the negative health and welfare impacts of air pollution. Anticipated intermediate outcomes are an increase both in the number of people using the bikeshare system and the number of bikeshare trips in the targeted neighborhoods. Anticipated long-term outputs are improved class curriculum for future years, deepened partnerships and relationships within the stakeholder network, and a reduction in air pollution in target neighborhoods.

10) Blacks in Green (BIG) - Chicago, IL

BIG and its partners are developing a community-directed, lead-free water project focused on public education, residential “lead-in-water” testing, and increasing access to in-home filtration systems for owner and renter households with young children, pregnant women, seniors and other vulnerable residents. BIG will target approximately 100 households in two neighborhoods: educating residents about the health impacts of lead exposure, especially lead in water and lead service line identification; conducting water testing and lead service line identification in 4 demo sites; and identifying 12 households for water filtration systems for same activities.

11) Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision Project (Detroit, MI)

This project will address diesel emissions at the Port of Detroit, MI and Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal facilities by conducting outreach and engagement, and forming collaborative partnerships between community residents, representatives, and port operators to address community concerns.

12) Union Hospital Foundation (Terre Haute, IN)

Union Hospital Foundation will work with community partners to expand the *All Babies Healthy Homes Initiative’s* clinically integrated perinatal navigation program to include environmental health assessments, education, and resources to 150 under-resourced families in the Wabash Valley community. The program will leverage the existing home-visiting program participants to provide

environmental health assessments and interventions to reduce negative environmental risk factors. Additionally, this project will engage 150 interprofessional teams of healthcare providers across the Wabash Valley community to create and conduct continuing medical education sessions that promote and share information about in-home environmental and health hazards that may increase vulnerability due to extended periods indoors due to local stay-at-home orders due to COVID-19.

13) Lower Phelan Creek Project (St. Paul, MN)

This project seeks to engage an array of stakeholders and residents across Saint Paul's East Side to achieve meaningful improvements in air quality and access to public parks and shared natural resources. Throughout this project, LPCP seeks to engage over 1000 residents across East Side neighborhoods, collaborate with more than 30 stakeholders in government, educational, and community-based organizations, and produce and distribute materials and resources culminating in an East Side Environmental Justice Framework document—which will be able to be utilized for land-use projects, pollution analysis studies, natural resource management plans, and power-mapping and community organizing activities, and which will impact decision-making in localized air quality policy and related legislation.

14) Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) - Baraga, MI

KBIC faces many sources of both legacy and current environmental pollutants. Additionally, various aspects of KBIC culture and traditions create a disproportionately high exposure and health effect potential from environmental pollution. This project has three inter-related objectives to aid in capacity-building: develop a technical report summarizing existing knowledge from various sources on environmental pollution affecting KBIC; use the technical report to inform and conduct an environmental risk assessment; and develop and implement educational materials to distribute the project findings. The results from this project will be used to educate community members on what their exposures and risks from environmental pollution may be and develop future community guidelines, recommendations, research studies, and program planning.

15) Mobile C.A.R.E. Foundation (MCC) - Chicago, IL

This grant will support MCC's efforts to provide home environment assessments to its asthma and allergy patients. During the pandemic, MCC and partners have piloted the use of air allergen sensors in conjunction with virtual home assessments. MCC proposes to sustain and expand the pilot program to a greater number of families through this project. As families continue to recover from the COVID pandemic, MCC would continue to pair home assessments and air monitoring with expanded telehealth access to allergy and asthma specialists. Outputs will include significantly reduced air pollution/allergens in patients' homes, educating parents and other family members on methods of maintaining control of pollution/allergens, while outcomes will be a significant reduction in (or elimination of) school absences, emergency department visits, and hospitalizations due to asthma/allergies for patients in underserved areas of Chicago and its southern suburbs.

REGION 6

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1) Water Wise Gulf South (New Orleans, LA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant (EJSG) is to develop a community-led movement to address flooding in low-lying areas along with other environmental injustices that typically plague formerly redlined neighborhoods. Project activities include conducting community-led research; building partnerships with government stakeholders and youth groups; and advocating for the implementation of large-scale green infrastructure projects in the target areas. Expected outcomes include increased knowledge and agency among residents; enhanced community leadership; and agency for achieving a vision for improved environmental conditions, such as less flooding, better air and water quality, and positive public health outcomes. Direct beneficiaries are 5 Communities in New Orleans, LA: Treme (70116), 7th Ward (70119), Upper 9th Ward (70117), Hollygrove-Dixon (70118), and New Orleans East (70128). Partners will provide expertise in technical aspects; strategy development for data collection; and community outreach.

2) Teaching Responsible Earth Education (T.R.E.E.) (New Orleans, LA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant is to establish an empowering, school curriculum-integrated environmental education program for younger students propelling their awareness of problems like climate change and the injustices they create. Project activities include learning about the animal, mineral, and plant kingdoms and how they interact and depend on ecosystems; and delving into the laws of nature regarding the movement of light, water, wind, and soil. Expected outcomes include an increased sense of responsibility to take care of the environment; increased conservation of resources at home and school; and a framework for the International School of Louisiana's (ISL's) curriculum advisor and teachers for their third-grade science program, which can be replicated for others. Direct beneficiaries are students living in New Orleans, Louisiana, zip-codes 70130 and 70114.

3) Bernalillo County Community Health Council (Albuquerque, NM)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant is to increase free locally grown produce while reducing carbon emissions and pesticide use in the International District of Albuquerque, NM. Project activities include addressing climate change and the impacts of COVID-19 on the target community through the coordination of a Neighborhood Food Hub Plan including, 11 committee-led meetings to support local gardeners' contributions to monthly food distributions and food-sharing networks. Expected outcomes include an increase of locally grown produce at food distributions; development of a Sustainability Plan, including Long Term Economic Development Plan to Sustain gardens and Neighborhood Food Hub Plan; and an improvement of air quality, and water retention by gardening with water-wise methods. Direct beneficiaries are residents of Albuquerque, New Mexico, International District, 87108.

4) Cottonwood Gulch Expeditions (Multiple Communities, NM)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant (EJSG) is to develop and implement a drinking-water quality, public health, and watershed awareness curriculum with 400 eighth-grade students in Albuquerque and Gallup, New Mexico. Project activities include developing a field

curriculum focused on groundwater and drinking water quality testing; facilitating groundwater testing in the field during field-based education programs in the wilderness area of New Mexico public lands; and developing a new classroom curriculum focused on watersheds, water quality, and drinking water. Expected outcomes include a deeper understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) as careers that address EJ issues, communities that recognize the importance of water quality, and student bodies that recognize the link between water quality and EJ. Direct beneficiaries are students in the Albuquerque and Gallup, New Mexico area.

5) **Adults Youth United Development Association (AYUDA) (El Paso, TX)**

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant is to utilize Community Health Workers (*promotoras*) to provide COVID-19 information, with an emphasis on debunking COVID-19 vaccine myths, to vulnerable populations in the underserved rural areas of eastern El Paso County, TX. Project activities include finalizing a simple survey to establish a baseline of community beliefs about COVID-19 and vaccine reluctance, and utilizing trained *promotoras* to conduct an in-person (or virtual) COVID-19 project training session. Expected outcomes include an increase in the number of community residents knowledgeable of the safety of the COVID-19 vaccine, and an increase in the number of residents that get vaccinated. Direct beneficiaries include residents of the following areas: City of San Elizario; Town of Clint; rural, unincorporated areas of El Paso County; and zip-codes: 79849, 79838, 79928, 79836, and 79853.

6) **Louisiana Bucket Brigade (St. James, LA)**

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant is to educate community members near refineries and petrochemical facilities, particularly those communities where COVID-19 fatalities have been disproportionately high, about available air quality information, including its connection to COVID-19 morbidity and greenhouse gas emissions. Project activities include engaging and training 20-30 residents per parish to become aware of air quality via air sampling and reports to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) hotline; synthesizing data, including demographics, COVID-19 rates, and emissions information; and compiling incident data into a report to understand the frequency of incidents and their connection with bad weather events. Expected outcomes include increased community awareness about greenhouse gas emissions, air quality, and respiratory illnesses, such as COVID-19, and community-generated documentation of air quality and industry incidents that is shared with governmental agencies. Direct beneficiaries are residents of the St. John, St. James, and Caddo Parishes in Louisiana.

REGION 7

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1) **City Sprouts (Omaha, NE)**

The “City Sprouts Victory Gardens Health Initiative” will support environmental justice through COVID-19 recovery in areas of North and South Omaha disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. At two Victory Garden demonstration project sites, monthly workshops will train participants to start and maintain their own Victory Gardens, which focus on the production of large amounts of nutrient-dense and culturally appropriate foods to feed families and donate to those in need. The project objectives are to (1) increase the amount of fresh produce grown in the neighborhoods of North and South Omaha considered food deserts to improve air quality by

reducing the need to travel far distances to access healthy, nutrient-dense foods; (2) improve health outcomes in the areas of Omaha disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by distributing free produce that is nutrient-dense and culturally appropriate to those most vulnerable, particularly children, elderly, and low-income community members; and (3) increase the vaccination rates for COVID-19 through an awareness campaign at Free Farm Stands in the communities disproportionately impacted by the disease and currently have lower rates of vaccination than other areas of Omaha.

2) PedNet Coalition (Columbia, MO)

The “Air Quality & Transportation Equity” project will address the environmental injustices caused by the auto-centric transportation system in Columbia, MO, which puts low-income communities and communities of color at higher risk of environmental and public health harms (e.g., air pollution, asthma, COVID-19, low access to resources) and excludes them from decision-making processes that can create healthy environments. The project will focus on Columbia’s five Vision Zero priority neighborhoods and will partner with resident leaders and community organizations that have equity and climate action missions to provide education (e.g., door knocking, newsletters, awareness campaign), gather input and assess needs (e.g., community meetings, audits of transportation infrastructure and resources, street issue mapping app), and empower residents to engage with decision-makers. The project outputs will include: approximately 1,250 residents reached through door-to-door outreach and newsletters, community meetings with 125 total participants, 10 infrastructure and basic needs audits, and 250 empowered community members who are committed to engaging in decision-making. Longer-term outcomes include: decreased emissions and air pollution and increased access to decision-making and community resources.

3) Springfield Community Gardens (Springfield, MO)

The “Springfield Community Gardens Environmental Justice Small Grants Project” will educate and empower underserved urban and rural Greene County, MO communities through sustainable, organic food production as well as emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency. The goals of the proposed project are to: (1) Foster food security (2) Create thriving living and working environments (3) Promote economic resiliency through the expansion of a 4-week Regenerative Agriculture Certificate/Internship program. The project will support 7 cohorts of 28 people over 7 months by adding workshop presenters to further develop the internship curriculum as well as expand outreach methods to Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities who are especially underserved in our community. It will also equip a propagation tunnel to increase production and further education beyond the one-year project.

4) Missouri Energy Care (St. Louis, MO)

The “Inclusive Sustainability for St. Louis” project will provide low-income homeowners in targeted north St. Louis neighborhoods with reliable, actionable home energy data that will provide them a blueprint for making their homes more energy-efficient. 50 low-income families will receive Home Energy Scores and initial low-and cost weatherization for their homes. Community engagement efforts will focus on recruiting homeowners, reviewing audit scores from a financial literacy perspective, and developing a game plan for each family. Community meetings and small group engagements will help people help each other with energy efficiency strategies and allow other community members to engage in broader environmental issues facing the community.

5) Metropolitan Energy Center (Kansas City, MO)

The “Kansas City Urban Heat Community Workshops” project will utilize Phoenix’s Heat Action Planning Guide² as a model to host KC Urban Heat Community Workshops in two Northeast & Northwest Kansas City, KS neighborhoods to create a local, contextual, and culturally appropriate vision for a safer, healthier, and cooler future for all.

6) Spark (Omaha, NE)

The “North Omaha Trail” project will work with neighborhood residents, local artists, and community organizations to educate individuals who reside in or near North Omaha, Nebraska about the new North Omaha Trail and clean air initiatives. North Omaha is the historic center of the Black community, and this project will help to eliminate racial disparities in public health and environmental risks. Key outcomes and outputs will include activation projects of the Trail – murals, gardens, and community walks – that focus on educating the public and empowering the neighbors to take an active role in clean air efforts.

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1) Climate Smart Missoula (Missoula, MT)

“Clean Air – Healthy Homes” is a collaborative initiative to address negative health outcomes during ever-increasing wildfire smoke episodes by co-creating a Wildfire Smoke Ready Action Plan and programs based on outreach, surveys and investigations with local Indigenous and underserved communities. It will also address air pollution by providing direct access to portable air cleaners. The initiative will strengthen community resilience by working with partners to survey how individuals understand the health impacts of wildfire smoke and then prepare for these events. From this, the grantee will co-develop an action plan for wildfire events with activities, shared resources, and messaging. It builds on the guiding principles, strategies, and partnerships from the recently adopted county-wide climate resiliency plan, Climate Ready Missoula and Climate Smart’s Summer Smart Initiative.

2) Groundwork Denver (GWD) - Denver, CO

GWD will hire 20 South Commerce City, (CC) and Globeville Elyria and Swansea (GES) Green Team employees, educate them about local Environmental Justice issues and environmental advocacy and stewardship, train them to effectively outreach to and discuss energy efficiency with residents, and how to plant and maintain trees on their property. Youth will conduct door-to-door outreach, educating residents about GGC, distributing tip sheets, and scheduling residents to receive no-cost energy audits, major and minor energy efficiency upgrades, and/or trees.

3) Ute Mountain Ute Tribe (Towaoc, CO)

The project objectives are: 1) conduct a Healthy Homes survey and a health focused lifestyles survey; 2) enhance the ongoing community engagement program; 3) perform ambient

(atmospheric) radon monitoring and to monitor for other toxic air pollutants (e.g., volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and 4) develop a White Mesa Epidemiological Study Plan, inclusive of ambient radon monitoring and investigation of other toxic air pollutants.

4) Indigenous Vision - Blackfeet Nation (Missoula, MT)

The proposed project will deploy professionally trained detection dogs to survey for environmental contaminants and COVID-19 in culturally significant landscapes on and surrounding the Blackfeet Nation of north-central Montana. Conservation detection dogs trained by Working Dogs for Conservation will be used to find scat samples from two sentinel species: mink and otter. Both mink and otter are aquatic species exploiting the invertebrate and piscine components of aquatic food webs, respectively. Heavy metals, pharmaceuticals, flame retardants, and COVID-19 can all be recovered from these two mustelids' scats. As such, these species can reveal the spatial distribution of these contaminants and disease.

5) Utah Clean Cities (Salt Lake City, UT)

The project will conduct a needs assessment that will be brought to the Utah Inland Port Authority to identify and address inequities experienced by near-port communities. The project will support communities in understanding, addressing, and developing solutions to local issues as it relates to air quality impacts and will provide resources toward building trust, connection, and solution-driven collaboration.

6) Rocky Mountain Sustainable L.A. (FT. Collins, CO)

The proposed project seeks support for a barrier analysis to explore and elucidate potential and actual barriers associated with Climatewise business and non-profit participation i.e., member recruitment. Climatewise is a free, voluntary program that offers simple solutions to help organizations reduce their environmental impact, save money, gain recognition for their achievements in energy and water conservation, waste reduction, alternative transportation and social responsibility. Importantly, our barrier analysis will provide a framework for subsequent recruitment efforts that will be used to examine and enhance Climatewise' outreach and recruitment to underrepresented groups. In short, we seek to engage in a comprehensive review of barriers to joining and fully participating within the Climatewise program. We expect to identify how the program can most effectively engage the program's diverse and ever-changing set of stakeholders, especially members/non-members that represent historically marginalized groups.

7) High Country C.C. (Summitt County, CO)

High Country Conservation Center, (HC3) will develop a Climate Equity Plan that empowers Summit County's underserved residents to participate in creating climate action solutions while improving the quality of life for all residents and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. By coordinating with diverse organizations which already work with low-income and minority residents on community-building projects, HC3 will ensure meaningful engagement with our community's diverse populations. HC3 will incorporate the Climate Equity Plan into the existing community-wide Climate Action Plan, prioritizing environmental justice and meaningful participation of all residents in our community's larger efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

8) DeSmog Denver (Denver, CO)

The Green House Collaboration Center (GHCC) serves as a local center where community members can connect with other residents. This project will support the GHCC in inviting guest teachers and

experts to engage in the development and implementation of initiatives, and host conversations regarding environmental and public health issues affecting the surrounding community.

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1) Special Service for Groups, Inc./Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement (Los Angeles, CA)

The *Water is Life* project will create a more aware, informed and water resilient Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community, especially among immigrants and limited English proficient residents, in the San Gabriel Valley of Los Angeles County. By providing culturally and linguistically appropriate education on topics related to water capture, conservation and contamination, the project will increase awareness of local water issues among residents and city officials, elevate community voices and concerns related to drinking water safety, and mobilize community action to change water use habits. The project will also engage residents in local water resource conservation strategies by encouraging stormwater capture practices, such as installation of rain barrels on residential sites, and collaborating with city leaders and residents to identify potential sites for a multi-benefit stormwater capture project.

2) OneOC (Santa Ana, CA)

The Leveraging Community Air Monitoring for Public Health and Environmental Justice project will implement a resident-led community air monitoring initiative using low-cost sensors to better understand and address the local, cumulative impacts of air pollution and COVID-19 in Southeast Santa Ana, CA. The project will be guided and overseen by Comunidad Unida, Aire Limpio (CUAL), a steering committee made up of youth and adult residents. The project activities shall include holding three community forums on EJ issues in Southeast Santa Ana, conducting six community-wide “toxic tour” outdoor monitoring events, convening a workshop and creating a brochure on reducing personal exposure to indoor air pollution including COVID-19, providing a report of findings from the three-part community air monitoring study, and developing EJ advocacy materials for multiple stakeholders based on these findings.

3) Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation (Santa Monica, CA)

The Table to Farm Revitalization for Underserved Communities project will revitalize and manage composting bins at three South Los Angeles environmental charter school campuses and retrofit a greenhouse at one of the school campuses with solar panels to grow nutrient-rich microgreens along with native tree seedlings to serve the surrounding community. The project will empower the community by increasing health and food equity, while also localizing climate solutions that confront the urban heat island effect and increase green space. Six community workshops will be held to engage and empower community members on topics such as at-home gardening, composting, food equity and climate resiliency. Students will also learn about combating climate change through reducing food waste, increasing renewable energy, and planting native trees.

4) Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment (San Francisco, CA)

The New Voices Are Rising for Community Resilience project seeks to increase collaboration across low-income communities of color in the San Francisco Bay Area to strengthen resilience against threats to community health posed by the COVID 19 pandemic, climate change, and dangerous levels of toxic pollution. Bringing together high school students from Oakland, Richmond/San Pablo, and Antioch/Pittsburg, the project will increase community capacity to engage in decision-making through youth leadership development and supporting community collaborations. Each student will carry out an individual project to advance goals of relevant environmental justice challenges, such as increasing food access in food deserts, reducing indoor exposure to wildfire smoke, and creating resilience hubs. Students will collaborate on a vaccine safety and availability presentation which each student will present in their own school. Students will also participate in a monthly Community Spotlight Series to share information about the environmental justice issues in their community and the work they are doing to address them.

5) Regeneration Project (Oakland, CA)

The Congregations as Resiliency Hubs project will support the development of a community resiliency hub for an East Oakland neighborhood by providing access to clean air during wildfires and blackouts at the Faith Baptist Church. In creating a resiliency hub, the Regeneration Project shall assess and address indoor air pollutants, as well as, install an air filtration system for use during wildfires the Faith Baptist Church site. The project will host two community workshops discussing the impacts of climate change on their neighborhood and how to adapt to these changes. In addition, this project shall develop a resource guide support other congregations in becoming community resiliency hubs.

6) Every Neighborhood Partnership (Fresno, CA)

The Addressing Food Disparities Demonstration project seeks to offer a holistic response to a lack of healthy food options for residents in Southwest Fresno, an area that faces some of the worst air quality in the Fresno metropolitan areas and has been disproportionately affected by environmental justice issues. The project focuses on mapping healthy food resources, connecting residents to local community garden resources, launching several community gardens, and demonstrating how to use and access healthy produce. During implementation of this project, the applicant will utilize a Racial Equity Impact Assessment approach to ensure equitable implementation of our project to remedy long-standing food disparity issues in Southwest Fresno.

7) Grow2Zero FARMS (Long Beach, CA)

The Harvest to Home Healthy Produce Delivery Project's goal is to increase access to healthy food for vulnerable communities in Long Beach, CA. The project shall be collecting and re-packaging 50,000 pounds of rescued food in addition to growing and distributing 10,000 pounds of organic produce. The project will target homebound households and individuals (those who are homebound due to a disability, lack of transportation, or age-related constraints), as well as those adversely impacted by social and environmental impacts resulting from COVID-19 and pollution from the port of Long Beach and local refineries. The project will provide at least 2600 crates of fresh food through both distribution and direct door-to-door delivery to participating families. Additionally, the applicant will host 10 webinars or workshops open to the public focused on composting, food waste reduction, food preparation, organic gardening and non-toxic pest control practices to help reduce household waste and pollution, provide access to nutritious food, and encourage healthy food habits.

8) West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (Oakland, CA)

The purpose of the West Oakland Sustainable Port Collaborative project is to provide a forum for community members to work together with a diverse group of partners in academia, labor, business, industry, and local and state agencies to accelerate the Port of Oakland's transition to zero-emissions. Project activities include conducting outreach and training for community members on health impacts from Port activities, educating Port decisionmakers on the feasibility of zero-emissions technology, and identifying barriers to eliminating specific emissions sources. Expected outcomes include supporting greater community advocacy to address air quality impacts from freight activity, developing recommendations on strategies for the Port to transition to zero-emissions technologies, and amplifying the voice and power of the local community in Port strategic planning with the goal of improving air quality and reducing health risks. The Collaborative builds on the WOEIP-led community engagement during the development of the West Oakland Community Action Plan, under the State of California's Community Air Protection Program (AB 617).

9) Native Renewables Inc. (Navajo Nation, AZ)

Transportation Behaviors Related to Food & Energy in Rural Navajo and Hopi Communities
The objective of the Transportation Behaviors Related to Food & Energy project is to understand the transportation habits of members of the Hopi and Navajo Nations who live in rural areas and lack access to electricity or food storage and explore how food storage can reduce travel and related transportation emissions. Native Renewables Inc. will provide education on the intersection of food, energy, transportation, and emissions to community members. Ten families will have solar-powered cold food storage provided at their homes and will help quantify the benefits of the project. The project seeks to lower energy expenses for families, reduce the need for fossil fuels, and reduce daily emissions to help meet decarbonization and climate goals.

10) Na Moku 'Aupuni oKo'olauHui (Maui, HI)

The Ke'anae-Wailuanui Community Watershed Monitoring & Conservation Project will train residents with regional and cultural knowledge to become proficient in the use of water quantity and quality measuring devices and other technologies to enhance the underserved community of Ke'anae-Wailuanui's capacity for local stewardship of resources. This training will prepare participants to monitor 27 streams, tributaries, and estuaries within Ko'olau District in Maui and remediate water quality issues for a healthier watershed to support traditional and customary practices, including subsistence gathering, fishing and taro farming.

11) Trees for Honolulu's Future (Honolulu, HI)

The Investigating and Addressing Heat Islands in a Vulnerable Community on O'ahu, Hawai'i project seeks to address urban heat island effects at a public housing complex, a park, and three schools in Honolulu by training student scientists to measure and develop site-specific maps of current conditions and identify solutions to those problems through experiential learning opportunities. Elementary age students will be introduced to concepts intended to foster a lifelong love of science and nature while middle and high school age students will identify strategies and resources needed to mitigate the impact of heat. Through the project, the applicant hopes to increase disaster resiliency in an underserved community with vulnerable populations, mitigate the effects of urban heat islands, promote awareness of careers in the environmental sector, and provide a replicable model for other communities interested in a "bottom up" collaborative approach by publishing a detailed step-by-step guide.

12) Purpose Focused Alternative Learning Corporation (Lupton, AZ)

The purpose of the Navajo Green Job Career Development project is to empower underserved communities living in Western Navajo to develop a certified Green Workforce specializing in solar technologies, which will provide green-job opportunities to deploy and manage off-grid solar furnaces and solar microgrid systems. The project will involve training Navajo certified solar technicians; training students on assembling and installing off-grid solar furnaces; and employing trained solar technicians to install off-grid solar furnace systems that support families living in the Bodaway Gap. Expected outcomes include increasing awareness among Navajos of the benefits of adopting renewable energy solutions in their homes and communities, increasing the number of Navajo household-level access to electricity and potable water, and increasing the number of solar trainers and technicians across Navajo.

13) Center for Environmental Health (Paramount, CA)

This project seeks to develop a community air monitoring network in Paramount, CA to fill a data gap on toxic hexavalent chromium (hex chrome) pollution and protect public health. Residents will independently collect air samples, alert regulators to pollution peaks, and use these data to advocate for feasible, long-term preventative action. Expected outcomes include increasing hex chrome monitoring data available, increasing the number of leaders and residents receiving updates and monitoring information, and increasing the number of stakeholders participating in efforts to address air quality issues in Paramount, such as long-term monitoring and regulation of polluting industries.

14) AsianWeek Foundation (San Francisco, CA)

The Bayview Food Sovereignty and Environmental Justice Project (BV-FS-EJ Project) will form collaborative partnerships, educate the community, and address air quality and food insecurity issues through the development of a sustainable community food system to grow and distribute locally grown food in the Bayview district of San Francisco, the city's most underserved neighborhood with the most COVID-19 infections and deaths. This project will develop partnerships between neighborhood farmers, markets, restaurants, and food access programs to implement a "soil-to-soil" food distribution supply chain that connects food production, processing, distribution, acquisition, consumption, and waste disposal; train community members to grow and maintain their own sustainable food gardens, thereby mitigating COVID-19 food access issues and reducing air pollution; and educate community members to understand environmental and public health issues and how their own local food production plays an important role in increasing environmental sustainability and improving air quality as part of a community-wide effort and collaboration. Education will be conducted in multiple languages of English, Spanish and Chinese, and with age-appropriate curriculums for youth, adults and seniors. Expected outcomes include increasing the number of residents aware of environmental burdens and associated health issues in BVHP as well as COVID safety protocols; increasing the number of residents educated on the benefits of local food, eating healthy, and exercising; and increasing the number of residents learning how to grow their own fresh, organic produce, including youth trained to operate food sovereignty systems.

15) Retail, Arts, Innovation & Livability Community Development Corporation (Mesa, AZ)

The CARE Resilience Hub: Making Hot Spaces Cool will focus on urban heat interventions in the Mesa, Arizona Water Tower Improvement District, an underserved neighborhood battling intense heat and gentrification due to large-scale development from proposed green infrastructure projects. Activities will include projects focused on designed shade rest stops placed in high traffic/low shade locations, a front yard beautification project that will provide shade trees and outreach and

engagement to help empower the community to build capacity. Two programs will be launched at the resilience hub. The Community Guardian Program will train neighbors through a series of monthly workshops to advocate for environmental justice solutions. A K-12 Summer Emergency Program will educate 250 youth on heat-health safety, cool routes, and positive behavioral choices, such as always carrying reusable water bottles.

REGION 10

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1) Methow Valley Citizens Council (WA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant to the Methow Valley Citizen’s Council is to allow the Methow Valley Citizens Council to continue its work to address air quality concerns within the Methow Valley river basin related to PM 2.5. Project activities include creating outreach materials, meeting with and training public health officials and social services staff, building relationships in underserved communities, and giving public demonstrations. Anticipated deliverables include 200 air purifying devices for homes in the areas, the creation or outreach materials and educational displays, and a better-informed network of health and social services providers who will have an efficient system to identify at risk households and be able to distribute the air purifiers to them. Subrecipients will be helping as consultants on outreach and the construction of the educational materials, as well as the translation of the materials into Spanish.

2) Traction Design Action Research (WA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant to the Traction: Action, resign, Research is to allow them to work alongside Nickelsville (self-managed homeless community) to co-envison an innovative Tiny House Ecovillage that combats homelessness in an environmentally and socially just way. Project activities include information gathering on the existing conditions, needs and priorities of these communities. Then they will work to develop a master plan for the community to guide future development, as well as building 1 to 3 prototypes of their eco-design concepts. Anticipated deliverables include the eco-village master plan which will be printed in book form and the demonstration prototypes of the eco-design components. Subrecipients of this award are the International Living Future Institute when the community registers for their Living Community Challenge.

3) Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc (AK)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant Anchorage Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc is to work on Local Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases through Education and Empowerment of Fairview Residents. Project activities include two training workshops for cohort members, two workshops for community members, and development of informational materials related to the impact of transportation infrastructures on air quality and individual/community health. Expected outcomes include increased community involvement and engagement, increased knowledge of cognitive tools and impacts of major transportation infrastructure on air quality and health. There are no subawards for this project.

4) Center for Intercultural Organizing (OR)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant, People Science Training and Risk Assessment Project, is to mitigate the negative health impacts of air and water pollution resulting from a catastrophic wildfire that destroyed the towns of Phoenix and Talent in September 2020. Project activities include community assessments regarding prevalence of asthma and respiratory symptoms; monitoring temperature/wind direction, monitoring levels of PM2.5/PM10 for indoor/outdoor air quality, community meetings, trainings, and creating assessments and maps of fire-destroyed properties that may have toxic residues which could become airborne. The goal and expected outcomes are informed citizens, reduced exposure to air pollution and lower prevalence of asthma/respiratory symptoms. Direct beneficiaries are low- income IR-BIPOC (Immigrant, Refugee, Black, Indigenous and People of Color) of the Talent/Phoenix areas. Sub-awards may include environmental assessments and people science training.

5) Urban Gleaners (OR)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant, Urban Gleaners Environmental Data Coordination and Outreach Project, is to provide food security that is culturally responsive and eliminates barriers to access in communities with environmental justice concerns. Project activities include identifying culturally relevant foods at pantry distribution sites; providing community outreach, feedback, and education; identifying and removing barriers at food distribution sites and diverting useable foods from landfills. The goals and expected outcomes of this project are increased capacity to accommodate higher food volumes and restored pantry sites to pre-pandemic levels; empowered communities, increased engagement; and reduced food waste. Direct beneficiaries are families with children who are low-income residents of Multnomah and Washington Counties, and identify as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC). There are no sub-awards for this project.

6) TerraGraphics International Foundation Inc (ID)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant TerraGraphics International Foundation Inc is a project called One Habitat - Sumu'yoo Tüpipüh: an environmental education program to address environmental injustice on the Shoshone-Paiute Duck Valley Indian Reservation. Project activities include developing and implementing an environmental education program for 7th-12th grade Native students including classroom workshops, field trips, field activities, scientific conferences, and community presentations. Expected outcomes include students being better prepared to understand and address local environmental challenges and an increase in students pursuing higher education and jobs in environmental science. There are no subawards for this project.

7) Thurston Climate Action Team (WA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant Thurston Climate Action Team Project is to address climate justice issues in Thurston County in which our underserved and minority communities are impacted by climate change effects. The action portion of this project will include educational workshops, presentations to community leaders and putting toolkits together with information sheets and basic items that anyone can use to make their homes more energy efficient. Our project's anticipated outcomes are to increase climate change and energy efficiency awareness and engagement of BIPOC community leaders and members via presentations and workshops with decreases in utility bills and disaster related claims. No sub-awards to contractual sources have been identified in this project.

8) VISION CHURCH (WA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant, the Snohomish County Covid-19 Relief Project, is to provide facts, reducing fear, hesitancy, and barriers preventing people from being vaccinated for COVID-19 as they face environmental justice issues. Project activities include targeting the homeless population in Snohomish County, WA, conducting outreach, street canvassing and community talk events; providing education and hygiene kits for mitigating COVID-19 effects related to the Clean Air Act; and providing transportation to and from vaccination sites. The goal and expected outcomes include increased learning about COVID-19 and environmental justice issues; increased participation and increased vaccination rate of homeless residents; decreased spread of COVID-19 and hospital admissions of homeless residents due to COVID-19. Direct beneficiaries are homeless residents and low-income residents of Snohomish County. There are no sub-awards for this project.

9) Collaborative Effort dba RAIN Incubator (WA)

The purpose of this Environmental Justice Small Grant, Wativersity Career Training - Water Systems Workforce Development Program is to provide career pathways, enhance quality of life, essential skills related to safe drinking water, and promote environmental justice. Project activities include identifying potential constituents in Pierce county, Washington; conducting targeted outreach; developing curriculum on pollutant monitoring standards and techniques; providing in-class and virtual training on integral skills related to environmental justice and safe drinking water; and leveraging community connections, developing candidates to fill workforce needs. Expected outcomes include increased diverse underrepresented community members in science who are prepared for a water systems workforce. Direct beneficiaries are residents of Pierce County, WA, including Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), correctional facilities, community colleges and veterans. There are no sub-awards for this project.