



## SUMMER OF ACTION GRANTEES 2021



### **Alaska Center Education Fund—Amplifying Alaska Asks for Federal Climate Action (AK):**

Through digital actions, constituent meetings, paid and earned media and online and offline visibility moments, Alaska Center Education Fund built a cohesive narrative of how our elected leaders can take real action on climate justice and provide long-term sustainable and clean jobs for Alaska. The organization focused on amplifying the stories of the people and places that can most benefit from climate-focused infrastructure and jobs—working with young Alaskans, environmental enthusiasts and Indigenous and labor partners.



### **Alianza Center—Leadership Through Expression Summer of Action (FL):**

Alianza Center engaged 120 youth and children ages five through eighteen, along with their parents, on issues concerning climate change, the environment and how these impact our health and well being. The families met with various local and state elected officials and wrote letters to their federal lawmakers. The program culminated with a community event that showcased dozens of multi-media forms of expression by Florida youth, children and their families.



### **Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE)—Mobilizing Nurse Advocates for Climate & Health Equity (AZ, CO):**

ANHE launched a targeted advocacy campaign to engage nurses and nursing organizations around climate & clean energy solutions. Leveraging the tremendous opportunity to build support for equitable climate solutions at a federal level, this campaign provided advocacy training to nurses and plugged nurses into advocacy opportunities with the aim of advancing climate solutions.



### **Black Millennials 4 Flint—The Youth EJ Griot Project (MI):**

The Youth EJ Griot Project centered the voices of African American and Latinx American youth around the climate crisis with emphasis placed on access, affordability, and responsibility. The Youth EJ Griots were trained to develop and clearly articulate an anti-colonial narrative that accurately represents how the African American and Latinx communities are disproportionately impacted by environmental racism and ecological violence. The project consisted of a dynamic summer intensive training, which built youth leaders' capacity to become environmental justice ambassadors through political advocacy, activism and organizing.



### **Clean Air Carolina—Perinatal Climate Equity Campaign (NC):**

Clean Air Carolina educated perinatal healthcare providers about how climate-related air pollution and heat exposure contribute to maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality, particularly among Black and Latinx birthing people and their infants. Providers were equipped with the knowledge and resources to identify and communicate climate-related health risks to their patients, and advocated for patient health by engaging the NC Federal Delegation through a four-week advocacy campaign to advance maternal/fetal health equity.



### **Clean Fuels Michigan—MI Clean Future: Accelerating Michigan's Automotive Leadership into the 21st Century (MI):**

Clean Fuels Michigan engaged with lawmakers, business leaders and the media to emphasize the importance of clean transportation for Michigan's health and economic wellbeing. Through five meetings with Michigan federal lawmakers and a three-month paid and earned media campaign, Clean Fuels Michigan demonstrated broad support for smart and durable vehicle electrification policies and called on the federal government to take immediate action to support the transition to zero-emission transportation.



### **Creation Justice Ministries—Just Transition and Climate Resilience in North Carolina (NC):**

Through video storytelling, public screenings, opinion pieces, and grassroots advocacy, Creation Justice Ministries ran a faith-based messaging and advocacy campaign that highlighted the ways the climate crisis is destroying the economies of rural areas, the key role congregations play in responding to climate disasters, and the need for investment from the federal government to prepare for and build back better after climate disasters. This work was done in collaboration with the North Carolina Council of Churches and North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light.



### **Environment North Carolina—Climate Advocacy Certificate Program (NC):**

Environment North Carolina offered their second annual Climate Advocacy Certificate Course. Through this virtual course, a diverse group of young adults across the state earned certificates in climate advocacy by attending five weeks of virtual classes and completing weekly assignments that make immediate impacts to move North Carolina towards a zero-carbon clean energy future.

### **Evangelical Environmental Network—Evangelical Action for a Flourishing Future (MI, GA):**

The Evangelical Environmental Network trained five action teams of 3-5 evangelical constituents from key districts in MI and GA to hold an in-district meeting with their policy maker, place an opinion piece or letter to the editor for publication in their state, and do outreach to their networks to drive at least 100 messages to their policy makers. Through their work, policy makers heard from a crucial constituency on the need to address pollution, create jobs and combat climate change.



### **Georgia Interfaith Power and Light—Faithful Federal Advocacy: Just Transition and Coastal Resilience with Georgia's Congregations (GA):**

Georgia Interfaith Power and Light developed a short video showing how climate change is impacting faith communities along Georgia's coast and hosted several public mini screenings with impacted community members, stakeholders and target lawmakers. Through these screenings, GIPA mobilized faith leaders and individuals to engage in federal advocacy through letter writing campaigns, legislative office visits and faith leader sign on letters aimed at federal climate and environmental justice policy.



### **Hispanic Federation—Hot Summer Climate Forum (NC, FL):**

Through virtual issue briefings, in-district meetings and digital issue campaigns, Hispanic Federation mobilized Latinos to engage federal lawmakers in North Carolina and Florida on the intersection of climate, health equity, clean energy investments and economic opportunities for underserved communities. Hispanic Federation invited 5,600 supporters throughout FL & NC, two U.S. Senators and ten U.S. Representatives to participate in the forums/meetings. Hispanic Federation also created a video to showcase the work completed.



### **Iowa Environmental Council—An Iowa Summer of Action for Resilient Communities and Clean Energy (IA):**

The Iowa Environmental Council (IEC) engaged Iowa federal lawmakers in support of measures that invest in infrastructure, create clean energy jobs and encourage community resiliency in the face of extreme climate events and pollution. Through clean energy and natural infrastructure tours, social media content, blog posts, opinion pieces and letters to the editor, action alerts, and a climate resiliency and clean energy roundtable with a targeted Member(s) of Congress, IEC engaged more than 200 Iowans to contact their federal lawmakers.





#### **Make the Road Nevada—The Vegas Clean Futures Initiative (NV):**

Make the Road Nevada (MRNV) activated their members and harnessed their digital communications strength to demand the Nevada congressional delegation support increased investment in clean energy and electrifying the transportation sector. MRNV completed five meetings and two town halls with members of Nevada's congressional delegation, collected 20 stories from impacted members, 20 social media activities and 10 earned media hits highlighting the disproportionate impact of climate change and air pollution on the Latinx, working class and immigrant communities in Nevada.



#### **North Carolina Black Alliance—NC Black Alliance Environmental Justice (NC):**

The North Carolina Black Alliance increased investment and expanded engagement in the climate and environmental justice spheres through developing community experts to support legislative advocacy at the local and state levels, providing climate/environmental justice education and issue awareness for their network of Black elected officials and provided support (testimony, strategy development etc.) for ongoing litigation and regulatory matters related to climate/environmental justice by amplifying the experiences of the communities the organization partners with.



#### **North Carolina Business Council—Engaging Black Businesses on Climate Change (NC):**

North Carolina Business Council (NCBC) acted as a bridge to bring the voices of the Black business community of North Carolina together with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus. NCBC built a network of business leaders to become ambassadors, engaging lawmakers in order to implement climate policies that help alleviate the environmental pressure on businesses and the public. Ambassadors participated in virtual roundtable talks and raised support for this issue through social media, letters, fact sheets, and media coverage.



#### **Port Arthur Community Action Network—Port Arthur Empowers Equity in the Environment and Resiliency Initiative (TX):**

Port Arthur Community Action Network (PACAN) proposed to affect policy changes by educating citizens on emissions, health hazards and effects of industrial pollution, seeking assistance from local health providers to screen residents for various pollution related diseases, and, in turn, creating a database cataloging the effects of said pollution. PACAN also documented the lingering effects of past storms on housing and businesses and highlight deficiencies in the flood/hurricane disaster management and recovery effort protocols. In conjunction with local citizens and officials, the organization approached Texas federal lawmakers on the need for change as it relates to promoting local development and investment in clean energy initiatives. Lastly, PACAN conducted voter education, registration and physical, virtual and “hybrid” town halls on these issues to improve awareness and increase chances of citizen participation.



#### **SalmonState—Amplifying Alaskan Commercial Fishing Voices Asking for Federal Climate Action Through Skipper Science Project (AK):**

SalmonState launched an outreach project called SkipperScience, enrolling up to 100 Alaska commercial fishermen in a citizen science and storybanking effort through the CitizenSentinel Smart Phone App. This effort lead to various opportunities for climate advocacy within the commercial fishing industry in Alaska. Fishermens' voices and experiences were amplified through social and earned media and individual fishermen were mobilized to ask for climate action with federal lawmakers and other decision makers.

#### **Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine—Empowering Policymakers to Address the Environmental Political Determinants of Health (GA):**

The Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine provided a bi-monthly brown bag learning series for legislators and policymakers. This series focused on topics related to voting access and democracy, water quality, carbon emissions, energy and power conservation and the effect of climate change on communities of color/vulnerable communities.

Satcher Health Leadership Institute





### **Southern Alliance for Clean Energy—Growing Jobs, Protecting Public Health, and Increasing Racial Equity by Cultivating Support in Georgia for a Federal Clean Electricity Standard (GA):**

By hosting events, developing educational materials and providing grassroots advocacy opportunities in key Georgia congressional districts and statewide, the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE) showcased existing clean energy investments in the state and demonstrated that Georgians stand to benefit from federal climate action. SACE made the case for policymakers that the state is well-positioned to fulfill a Clean Electricity Standard in a way that will reduce climate pollution, create well-paying jobs, bolster the post-pandemic economy and advance racial and social equity through alleviating the disproportionate burdens of climate pollution and unaffordable energy on frontline communities.



### **Spread the Vote—Voter Access through IDs (GA, TX):**

Spread The Vote helped people obtain the government-issued IDs they need for jobs, housing, health care (including COVID vaccines) and to head to the polls. Program partners and highly-trained volunteers provided direct assistance to obtain all documents required, transportation to government offices and whatever else it took to get an ID in hand.



### **Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility—Climate and Health: Moving Texas Toward a Clean Energy Future (TX):**

Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility, drawing upon its medical knowledge of the impacts of climate change and other environmental threats to public health, met with key conservative members of the Texas congressional delegation to educate and advocate for clean energy policies, conducted a targeted communications campaign to promote science-based health/climate policies and collaborated with local medical societies to develop mechanisms for the Texas Medical Association to educate its members and federal policymakers on climate change and its health impacts.



### **West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum—Business Engagement in Support of Climate Action and Democracy (MI, CO):**

West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum organized business leaders and community partners to engage federal office holders on the need for decarbonization, infrastructure and community investment and preservation of voting access as a racial equity imperative. Through a series of media engagements, roundtables and events, district-local teams demonstrated a business case and business support for investment to six federal lawmakers in Michigan and Colorado.



### **West Virginia Climate Alliance— Meeting the 2021 Climate Challenge in West Virginia (WV):**

West Virginia Climate Alliance marshalled a host of resources in a wide-ranging campaign that included earned media, op-eds, editorial meetings with the state's largest newspapers and expanded social media on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. In conjunction with the West Virginia Center on Climate Change, the WV Climate Alliance sponsored three educational webinars on the need for a true transition to a low-carbon economy in West Virginia, educating state residents and policy makers on the urgency of addressing climate change and how a true transition will assist all West Virginians.



### **Western Leaders Network—Organizing Local and Tribal Leadership to Advance Federal Methane Pollution Protections (CO, AZ, NV):**

Western Leaders Network (WLN) worked to educate and engage local and tribal leadership in Arizona, Colorado and Nevada on methane pollution, influenced state and federal action to reduce methane emissions and amplified local-level successes and challenges that illustrate why meaningful action is needed now to address the climate crisis. In addition to keeping pressure on federal lawmakers in those states and on the presidential administration to act on climate at the federal level, WLN worked toward state-level solutions through press statements, media pieces, public testimony and letters to and/or meetings with decision-makers.