



# SUMMER OF ACTION GRANTEES 2021



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

The Alaska Center Education Fund will galvanize Alaskans to share the impacts of the climate crisis, and the urgent need for a just transition to an equitable clean energy economy. The organization will focus on amplifying the stories of the people and places that can most benefit from climate-focused infrastructure and jobs possibilities in the American Jobs Plan and other legislation—working with young Alaskans, environmental enthusiasts and Indigenous and labor partners. Through digital actions, constituent meetings, paid and earned media and online and offline visibility moments, Alaska Center Education Fund will build a cohesive narrative of how elected leaders can act on climate justice and provide long term sustainable and clean jobs for Alaska.



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

Alianza Center will engage families on issues concerning climate change, the environment and how these impact our health and well-being. Alianza Center will work with children ages five through eighteen, along with their parents, to talk about their experience, and meet with local and state elected officials and write letters to their federal lawmakers. The program will take place at the Mexican Consulate in Orlando and will culminate with a community event on Friday August 6th, showcasing 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):**

The COVID-19 pandemic underscores the need to address COVID-19, climate and racial and economic justice in tandem rather than as separate issues. For this project, ANHE plans to engage nurses and nursing organizations around climate and clean energy solutions. Leveraging the tremendous opportunity to build support for equitable climate solutions at a federal level, this campaign will provide advocacy training to nurses and plug nurses into advocacy opportunities with the aim of advancing climate solutions.



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

The Youth EJ (environmental justice) Griot Project centers the voices of African American and Latinx American youth around the climate crisis with emphasis placed on access, affordability, and responsibility. Creating a Black and Brown environmental justice leadership pipeline, this intergenerational model will support the development of community anchors. The namesake “Griots” is important to the purpose of the project. Griots originated from the West African Mande empire of Mali as storytellers and oral historians of their communities that help to shape and maintain their tribe’s narrative. The Youth EJ Griots will be trained to develop and clearly articulate an anti-colonial narrative that accurately represents the African American and Latinx communities disproportionately impacted by environmental racism and ecological violence. The Youth EJ Griot Project will consist of a dynamic summer intensive training, which will build 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 will educate perinatal healthcare providers about how climate-related air pollution and heat exposure contribute to maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality, particularly among Blacks and Latinos. Providers will be equipped with the knowledge and resources to identify and communicate climate-related health risks to their patients and advocate 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 will engage with lawmakers, business leaders and the media to emphasize the importance of clean transportation for Michigan's health and economic wellbeing. Through meetings with Michigan federal lawmakers and a three-month paid and earned media campaign, Clean Fuels Michigan will demonstrate broad support for smart and durable vehicle electrification policies and will call 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):**



Creation Justice Ministries will run a faith-based messaging and grassroots advocacy campaign emphasizing the need for investment in just transition and resilience for communities. Through video storytelling, public screenings, opinion pieces, and grassroots advocacy, the organization will highlight 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 will be done in collaboration with the North Carolina Council of Churches/North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light and intersects with a similar project proposed by Georgia Interfaith Power & Light.

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



Environment North Carolina will offer their second annual Climate Advocacy Certificate Course. The organization will recruit a diverse group of students from universities and colleges, including community colleges and historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), from every congressional district across the state. Through this virtual course, young adults earn 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.

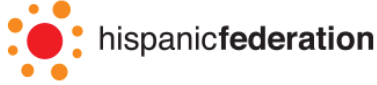
**Evangelical Environmental Network—Evangelical Action for a Flourishing Future (MI, GA):**

The Evangelical Environmental Network will recruit evangelical constituents from key districts in MI and GA to communicate the need for Congress to protect the health of kids and frontline communities, and to invest in clean energy jobs. These teams will receive training on policy maker education and op-ed/letter to the editor writing. They will hold in-district meetings with policy makers, and do outreach to activate their networks, to ensure policy makers hear from evangelical Christians across the U.S..

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

Georgia Interfaith Power and Light will develop a short video showing how climate change is impacting faith communities along Georgia's coast and will host several public mini screenings with impacted community members, stakeholders and target lawmakers. The film will highlight how the climate crisis is destroying the economies of rural areas and will highlight the key role congregations play in responding to climate disasters as well as the need for federal infrastructure and disaster preparedness related investments in coastal communities. Through these screenings, GIPA will mobilize 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 will mobilize 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 will invite supporters throughout FL and NC to participate in the forums and invite two U.S. Senators and ten U.S. Representatives to participate in the forums/meetings. Hispanic Federation will also create 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) will engage Iowa federal lawmakers in support of measures that invest in infrastructure, creating clean energy jobs and encouraging 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 and action alerts, IEC will engage more than 200 advocates to contact their federal lawmakers, and culminate in a virtual or in-person climate resiliency and clean energy roundtable with a targeted Member(s) of Congress. The event will be streamed to provide public access and will feature state-level leaders, subject experts, environmental advocates, and energy professionals.



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

Make the Road Nevada (MRNV) will activate their members and harness their digital communications strength to demand the Nevada congressional delegation support increased investment in clean energy and electrifying the transportation sector. MRNV will meet with members of Nevada's congressional delegation, collect 20 stories from impacted members, and do earned and social media highlighting the disproportionate impact of climate change and air pollution on the Latino, working class, and immigrant communities in Nevada.



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

The North Carolina Black Alliance seeks to increase investment and expand engagement in the climate and environmental justice spheres, engaging this work along three primary tracks: 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 providing 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) will act as a bridge to bring the voices of the Black business community of North Carolina together with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Many business leaders are affected by the negative impacts of climate change and lack of environmental justice, which can disrupt their ability to grow their businesses. NCBC will work to build a network of business leaders to become ambassadors, engaging lawmakers to implement climate policies that help alleviate the environmental pressure on businesses and the public.



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

Port Arthur Community Action Network (PACAN) proposes 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 creating a database cataloguing pollution effects. PACAN will also document 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 will approach Texas federal lawmakers on the need for change in local development and investment in clean energy initiatives. Lastly, PACAN will conduct voter education, registration and physical, virtual and “hybrid” town halls to improve awareness and increase citizen participation.

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

SalmonState, via their brand the Alaska Salmon Habitat Information Program (SHIP), will launch an outreach project called SkipperScience over the summer of 2021 enrolling up to 100 Alaska commercial fishermen in a citizen science and storybanking effort. This effort will lead to recruitment, organization, and mobilization opportunities for climate advocacy within the commercial fishing industry in Alaska. The primary tool for initial engagement and enrollment of fishermen will be through the CitizenSentinel Smart Phone App. Fishermen’s voices, stories, observations and experiences will be amplified through social media and earned media. Individual fishermen will be mobilized and coordinated to share stories and call for climate action by 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 will provide a bi-monthly brown bag learning series for legislators and policymakers. This series will focus 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 and 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):**

Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE) will demonstrate the economic and public health opportunities that a clean electricity standard presents as part of the American Jobs Plan in order to build support from Georgia’s congressional delegation. By hosting events, developing educational materials, and providing grassroots advocacy opportunities in key Georgia congressional districts and statewide, SACE will showcase existing clean energy investments in the state. SACE will make 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 right historical wrongs and advance racial and social equity through alleviating the disproportionate burdens of climate pollution and unaffordable energy on communities of color and low-income areas.



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

Spread the Vote will help 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 will provide direct assistance to obtain all documents required, transportation to government offices and whatever it takes 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, will make the case for clean energy policies and other actions to mitigate the potentially devastating and disproportionate health impacts of climate change. The project will employ these strategies: meet with members of the Texas congressional delegation to educate and advocate for clean energy policies, conduct a targeted communications campaign to promote science-based health/climate policies, and collaborate 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 will organize 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 will demonstrate the business case and support for community investment to six federal lawmakers in Michigan and Colorado.



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

The West Virginia Climate Alliance will address the urgency of the climate crisis through a broad media campaign and direct communications with federal lawmakers. As a broad coalition of 20 environmental, civil rights, civic and faith-based organizations, the Alliance will marshal a host of resources in a wide-ranging earned media campaign targeting 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 will sponsor three educational webinars on the need for a true transition to a low-carbon economy that 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) will work to educate and engage local and tribal leadership in Arizona, Colorado and Nevada on the methane pollution issue, influence state and federal action to reduce climate-warming methane emissions and amplify 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 administration to act on climate at the federal level, WLN will continue to work toward the advancement of state-level solutions through press statements, media pieces, public testimony and letters to and/or meetings with decision-makers.