



Regional Climate Collaboratives

Round 2 Applicant Profiles



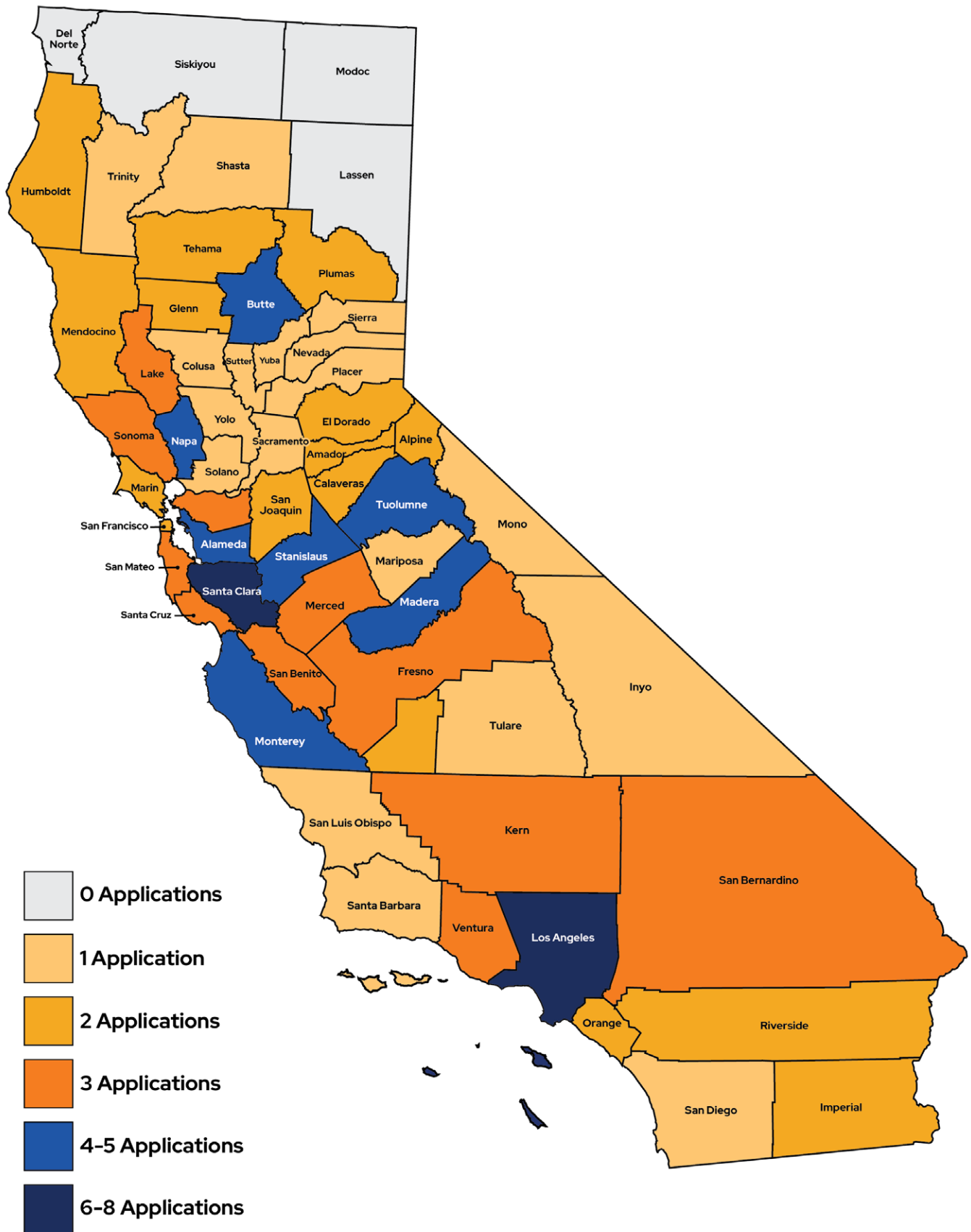
The **Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC)** **Program** (SB 1072, Leyva 2018) works to build and harness capacity within communities throughout California to advance equitable climate action and outcomes. The program is designed to strengthen local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, and expertise with a focus on increasing access to funding for project planning and implementation. RCC funds collaboratives of cross-sector partners to conduct capacity building activities with and within under-resourced communities.

In the second round of the program, the **California Strategic Growth Council (SGC)** received interest from 31 applicants across the state to support local and regional capacity and technical assistance strategies. These applicants formed Collaboratives that included a wide variety of partners, strategies, and addressed climate change related issues in their regions. Due to impacts from the California 2024-25 Budget, this round of the RCC program funding was pulled back and SGC was unable to make any awards. However, we are committed to sharing applicants' proposed projects in an effort to build awareness of climate work happening among state partners, philanthropic organizations, and other interested entities. This document includes profiles of 12 applicant project proposals that opted to share their work publicly.

While each applicant proposed a unique workplan that meets the priorities and needs of the community they aim to serve, SGC noticed some recurring themes across many of the applications. These key themes include addressing risks from extreme heat; reducing wildfires and wildfire risk; incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) into climate efforts; supporting rural and tribal communities; and developing diverse partnerships, such as with community-based organizations, government, nonprofits, academia, religious organizations, grassroots/advocacy, and law enforcement. Overall, all proposals aimed to develop local and regional capacity to address climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience and bring in needed resources to under-invested communities.

If you would like more information on any initiative listed here or to connect directly, we have included contact information for each applicant. Please note that because many of these collaboratives were developed for the purposes of the RCC program at a specific moment in time, the partners may wish to modify elements of their proposals for future opportunities. For questions about SGC's RCC program, please reach out to CACE@sgc.ca.gov.

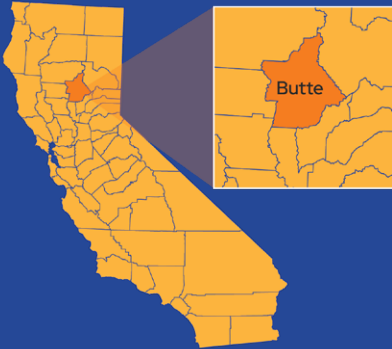
RCC Applications Map



Butte Resilience Collaborative

Region

Butte County



Area of Focus

Educational Programming; Community Workshops; Rural Communities.

Requested Investment

\$998,000

Partners

Community Action Agency of Butte County, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Butte Environmental Council, Butte County Local Food Network, Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services, South Chico Community Assistance Center, Oroville Southside Community Improvement Association, Chico Area Recreation District, African American Family & Cultural Center, Hmong Cultural Center of Butte County, Ria Collaboratories, From the Ground Up Farms, Youth 4 Change, Bethel AME Church, Magalia Community Park, Butte County Office of Emergency Management Services, Butte County Department of Public Health, Butte County First 5, Enloe Medical Center, American Red Cross, Jesus Center, Chico Housing Action Team, Good Well Consulting, United Way of Northern California, North State Planning and Development Collective, Butte 211, Safe Space, North State Hispanic Resource Council, and Paradise Stronger.

Summary

Throughout the past five years, Butte County has been impacted by various devastating natural disasters that include fires such as the 2018 Camp Fire, which had an economic cost of \$148.5 billion, including capital losses, health costs, and indirect losses. Like the rest of California, extreme heat is projected to worsen in the coming decades along with extreme drought. These natural disasters back-to-back, along with the pandemic, have caused grave economic hardships to local communities and had a significant impact on the mental health of residents, leading to a high prevalence of anxiety, depression, and PTSD.

Solution

The Butte Resilience Collaborative aims to create an inclusive, equitable, and socially just network in Butte County to address resource gaps for vulnerable populations and prepare for its climate future through capacity building and community education. The Collaborative brings together key focus areas including building CBO capacity within the network, clear communication, strengthening a robust collaboration, and ensuring equitable distribution of resources. By working with local Community Resilience Centers already embedded and trusted in the community, they can ensure programs, resources, and education are delivered equitably.

Impact

Investing in this collaborative will fund critical infrastructure needs within network CBOs, increase capacity to effectively engage vulnerable populations, leadership training, grant writing, and building tools to increase collaborative capacity among this diverse group of organizations. It will also bring in local experts in climate change and DEI to ensure effective planning. The collaborative aims to mitigate climate change by educating and involving all citizens while addressing inequities.

Contact

Tim Hawkins,
Chief Executive Officer, Community Action Agency of
Butte County, Inc.

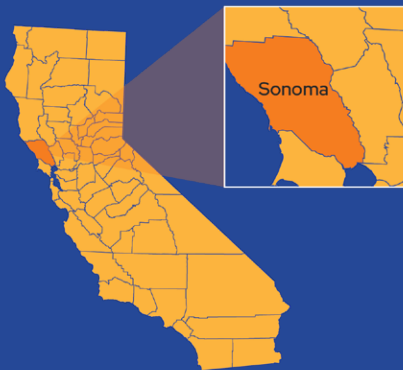
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[Butte Resilience Collaborative](#)

Community Partners for Resilience in Sonoma County

Region

Sonoma County



Area of Focus

Climate Resiliency; Community Engagement and Participation; Hazard Mitigation.

Requested Investment

\$1,738,041

Partners

Sonoma Ecology Center, Greenbelt Alliance, Los Cien, Soluna Outreach Solutions, EFZM Engage, La Luz Center, Nuestra Comunidad, Latino Alliance of Rohnert Park-Cotati, and County of Sonoma.

Summary

In October 2017, wildfires in the area killed 22 people, burned more than 100,000 acres, and destroyed 4,600 homes, including those in the low-income Coffey Park neighborhood. The 2019 Kincadee fire burned 80,000 acres and 374 homes. The 2020 Glass fire burned 70,000 acres in Sonoma and Napa Counties and 334 homes in Sonoma County. High-severity fires like these reduce the land's ability to buffer climate impacts, store carbon, and provide ecological and economic benefits.

Solution

The Community Partners for Resilience in Sonoma County has a community-centered vision to address these challenges, built on shared decision-making between local governments and community members. This initiative focuses on four of Sonoma County's most under-resourced communities. It aims to enhance understanding of climate and resilience challenges specific to their areas. The program will organize efforts to identify community priorities for a climate-resilient future and build local agency for solutions that matter to them.

Impact

An investment in this Collaborative will directly support efforts to design, fund, and build community-led climate resilience projects and develop staff capacity locally to pursue and leverage resources. In addition, these efforts will spur economic development as community members are equipped with new green job skills. Overall, these communities will be healthier and more resilient to climate hazards because of these projects to improve the resilience of the Sonoma County landscape, economy, and culture.

Contact

Caitlin Cornwall

Senior Project Manager, Sonoma Ecology Center

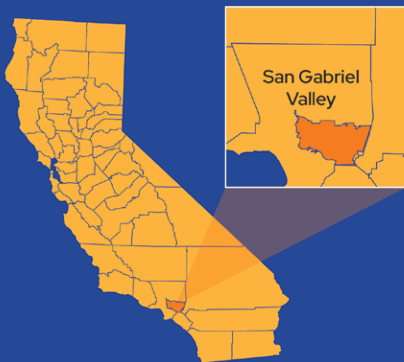
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[Sonoma Ecology Center](#)

Cool San Gabriel Valley

Region

San Gabriel Valley



Areas of Focus

Extreme Heat; Air Quality; Environmental Justice.

Requested Investment

\$1,721,816

Partners

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), Active San Gabriel Valley, Day One, Nature for All, Sustainable Claremont

Summary

The San Gabriel Valley (SGV) is one of the most diverse regions in the United States, home to 2.3 million Californians and multiple working-class, majority-minority Latino and Asian Pacific Islander communities. Immigrants from around the world have deeply shaped the valley's cuisine, commerce, architecture, culture, and social fabric. Yet the region suffers from some of the worst air quality and hottest weather in Los Angeles County, and climate change only threatens to worsen those conditions. The region currently lacks a network of environmental justice organizations with the capacity and expertise to meet its current needs, and local agencies lack the capacity to access competitive state funding opportunities for climate mitigation and resilience.

Solution

The Cool SGV Collaborative aims to build local capacity to realize a more sustainable and habitable future for some of the most climate vulnerable neighborhoods in Los Angeles County. They envision a SGV where the highest-need communities are prioritized for investments in cooler, greener neighborhoods with cleaner air and water; affordable, healthy, climate resilient housing; improved access to park and open space; and safer, more sustainable streets for walking, bicycling, and public transit.

Impact

The Cool SGV Collaborative will build community, non-profit, stakeholder, and agency capacity to take advantage of funding opportunities and realize local resilience projects in the short-term. To do so, the Collaborative has developed a robust, actionable scope of work that centers equitable, community-led decision making. Focusing its work on the highest-need, most climate vulnerable communities in the SGV per LA County's latest Climate Vulnerability Assessment, the Collaborative will increase community capacity to mitigate, adapt to, and equitably act on climate change on the local level.

Contact Information

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[San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments](#)

Fresno Urban Neighborhood Green Infrastructure Collaborative (FUNGI)

Region

Fresno County



Area of Focus

Restoration; Green Infrastructure; Community Engagement.

Requested Investment

\$999,050

Partners

Lowell Community Development Corporation, Chinatown Fresno Foundation, Downtown Fresno Partnership, Highway City Community Development, Inc, South Tower Community Land Trust, and Central Valley Community Foundation.

Summary

Central Fresno residents lack walking and bike trails, shaded paths, and safe pedestrian routes, which affects their well-being. High car usage raises asthma rates and pollution, impacting up to 95% of residents. Adding trails, water stations, trees, and greenspaces will boost health and provide environmental benefits. Electric vehicle routes will improve mobility and access. The region also faces drought, extreme heat, and poor air quality. Increasing tree canopies, expanding greenspaces, conserving water, and improving irrigation with mulching and composting will help address these issues.

Solution

The vision behind the Fresno Urban Neighborhoods Green Infrastructure (FUNGI) Collaborative is to cultivate a thriving, equitable, and sustainable urban environment that enhances the quality of life for all residents. It focuses on addressing climate change and economic disparities by building resilience and providing economic opportunities for those who have borne the heaviest burdens of economic and environmental injustices.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will ensure that early, resident-led wins for green infrastructure will mushroom into a more equitable and sustainable urban future. By nurturing partnerships and developing green projects, it will support the planning and implementation of projects focused on greenspace, water conservation, walking and biking trails, and reducing the community's carbon footprint in a way that prioritizes community needs.

Contact

Esther Carver

Executive Director, Lowell Community Development Corporation

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[Fresno Community & Economic Development Partnership](#)

Lake County Community Risk Reduction Authority

Region

Lake County



Area of Focus

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging; Biomass/Biochar; Wildfire Prevention.

Requested Investment

\$1,700,000

Partners

The County of Lake, Lake County Resource Conservation District, Lake County Community Risk Reduction Authority (RRA), North Coast Opportunities, and Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians.

Summary

Wildfire risk is a dominant climate issue in Lake County, most of which is located as a CAL FIRE-designated Very High or High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Ecological degradation from wildfires and dead trees has led to five major flooding and mudslide events. Tree mortality has also affected tribal subsistence gathering of plants for food, medicine, and basket-making resources. Extreme heat is also a growing challenge in Lake County and many low-income residents are disproportionately affected by hotter and longer heat events and are at greater risk of heat stroke.

Solution

The Lake County Community Risk Reduction Authority (RRA) Collaborative envisions helping all Lake County communities manage shared climate change risks and foster community climate action through engagement and educational programming. Since 2017, the Collaborative has secured funding, coordinated projects, and educated the community on climate action. Despite limited funds and no dedicated staff, RRA Partners have successfully developed actionable plans and projects, including a U.S. Forest Service-sponsored Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) process; the first in California, which included creation of a Community Toolbox that is used by numerous local agencies to plan projects

Impact

Investments in this Collaborative support development of actionable plans and projects to achieve climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience goals alongside diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging training to build social infrastructure. Funding would also increase staff capacity to develop plans for using waste woody biomass to produce clean energy and biochar, creating jobs and boosting the local economy. This programming would address urgent community needs and strengthen Lake County's resilience against severe climate events.

Contact

Terre Logsdon

Chief Climate Resiliency Officer/Tribal Liaison, Lake County

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[Lake County Community Risk Reduction Authority](#)

Monterey Bay Area Climate Justice Collaborative

Region

Monterey Bay Area



Area of Focus

Capacity Building; Emission Reductions;
Climate Resiliency.

Requested Investment

\$1,748,669

Partners

Ecology Action, Community Initiatives (on behalf of its internal fiscally-sponsored project, Regeneración - Pajaro Valley Climate Action), Healing and Reconciliation Institute, Kanyon Consulting, Action Council of Monterey County (on behalf of its fiscally sponsored project Mujeres en Acción), California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (on behalf of its fiscally sponsored project Central Coast Climate Collaborative), Center for Community Advocacy, Central Coast Energy Services, Community Action Board, Community Bridges, Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action, Leaders4EARTH, MILPA, Monterey Bay Economic Partnership, Ventures, and Watsonville Wetlands Watch

Summary

The Monterey Bay region is a diverse area of the state that struggles with high housing costs, income inequality, and climate vulnerabilities that threaten the local economy and way of life. Agriculture and tourism are key to the local economy and community pride but are vulnerable to climate change and fraught with equity challenges such as labor rights issues and low wages. Agencies and community organizations, already stretched thin addressing basic needs, have limited capacity to tackle climate change. The failure of the Pajaro River Levee in 2023 left 250 residential structures damaged or destroyed, totaling \$100 million in damages. Infrastructure, including roads, water, and sewage systems, sustained \$60 million in damages. Previously, the 2020 CZU wildfires caused weeks of unhealthy smoke exposure for outdoor workers before farms supplied them N95 masks. Furthermore, the fires led to evacuation of farm working families with nowhere to go, and left many without jobs. The County of Santa Cruz is still repairing roads from 2018 storms and dealing with significant wildfire damage, including \$340 million from the 2020 CZU Complex Fire.

Solution

The Monterey Bay Area Climate Justice Collaborative's solution is to achieve thriving health, economic self-sufficiency and community well-being for the region through activities that rapidly reduce emissions and make this climate-vulnerable region more climate resilient.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative unites impacted community members, CBOs staffed by Latine working-class individuals, climate-focused organizations, and public agencies to create a community owned table where diverse members can freely ideate, co-create and develop plans to advance and fund equitable climate solutions based on community priorities, while also supporting meaningful community representation in agency-led climate planning and program processes.

Contact

Kirsten Liske,
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Northern California Tribal Climate Consortium Project

Region

Northern California and Coastal Range



Area of Focus

Reef Protection; Conservation; Tribal Resiliency.

Requested Investment

\$1,500,000

Partners

Blue Lake Rancheria, California Indian Environmental Alliance, Dry Creek Rancheria, Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts Point Rancheria, North Coast Resource Partnership, Robinson Rancheria, and Round Valley Band of Pomo Indians.

Summary

The Northern California Tribal Climate Consortium (NCTCC) unites diverse tribal communities in Northern California, each with unique cultural heritage, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, tribal sciences, and a unique understanding of local ecosystems. Northern California tribes contend with wildfire threats due to prolonged droughts, rising temperatures, changing vegetation patterns, and prohibition of application of Traditional strategies using Traditional Knowledge. Dwindling water resources have also had a profound impact on tribal communities and coastal tribes in the region face rising sea levels that threaten to inundate ancestral lands and damage critical infrastructure, displacing communities and undermining continuation of cultural practices.

Solution

The Northern California Tribal Climate Consortium (NCTCC) envisions developing strategies and actions to address climate change, enhance resilience, and promote equitable solutions. The Collaborative members represent a tapestry of skills and expertise, from tribal council leaders to environmental directors and natural resources specialists, cultural practitioners, and tribal community members. By leveraging the diverse expertise of tribal partners, NCTCC serves as a model for California tribes in tackling climate challenges.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will fund training in reefcheck scuba and data collection trainings, cultural resource evaluations, and ArcGIS. These trainings will build a workforce skilled in integrating Tribal Traditional Knowledge into climate adaptation and addressing data gaps. Additionally, funding will support the development and updating of databases and tools for species tracking and coordination with neighboring tribes, municipalities, and agencies.

Contact

Sherris Norris

Executive Director, California Indian Environmental Alliance

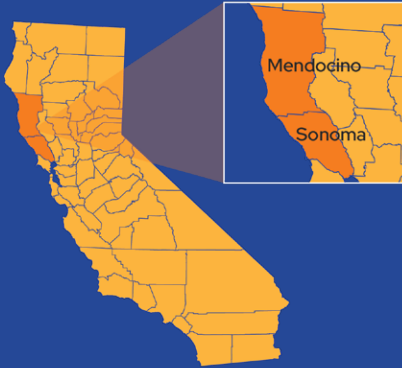
grants@cieaweb.org

[California Indian Environmental Alliance](#)

Russian River Confluence

Region

Mendocino County and Sonoma County



Area of Focus

Drought and Flood Mitigation; Urban Greening; Educational Programming.

Requested Investment

\$995,054

Partners

Conservation Works, Mendocino, Resource Conservation District, Russian Riverkeeper, and Sonoma Resource Conservation District.

Summary

The Russian River Confluence began as a group of technical experts and government agencies focused on information exchange and project coordination for climate change adaptation and grant proposals. However, without funding, involving underserved communities has been difficult. The Collaborative focuses on disadvantaged and tribal areas within this large region, but no single hub or resource currently serves the entire watershed. The Russian River watershed spans 110 miles, covering urban, rural, agricultural, and forested areas, including ancestral and unceded lands of the Pomo, Miwok, and Wappo Tribes.

Solution

The Russian River Confluence envisions engaging the community to steward a Russian River watershed that is healthy, vibrant and accessible, serving as the economic, environmental, recreational, and spiritual heart of the region. This project will build infrastructure to drive collective action, engage the community, and ensure equitable resource deployment, making significant strides in addressing floods and droughts.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will help build a more inclusive coalition and address flooding issues in vulnerable populations affected by climate change. Funding will also improve multilingual communication and outreach, fostering trust and involvement from underserved communities.

Contact

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[Conservation Works](https://www.conservationworksnc.org)

San Mateo/Santa Clara Counties Regional Climate Collaborative

Region

San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties



Area of Focus

Extreme Heat; Rising Sea-Levels; Disaster Planning.

Requested Investment

\$1,749,600

Partners

Acterra, Belle Haven Community Development Fund (fiscal sponsor of San Francisco Study Center), Breathe California of the Bay Area, Golden Gate, and Central Coast, Climate Resilient Communities (fiscal sponsor Acterra), Coastal Quest, Community Agency for Resources, Advocacy and Services, Rise South City (fiscal sponsor Coastal Quest), San Jose Conservation Corp, South Coast Sustainable, and The Tenacious Group.

Need

Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, home to Silicon Valley, face deep inequalities despite overall wealth. Many underserved communities in these counties are overlooked and lack resources for climate change and disaster preparedness. Both counties experience extreme heat and flooding from sea-level rise. This Collaborative was formed to address these needs by leveraging expertise and resources to support small community-based organizations with tailored solutions for the region's diverse population.

Solution

The San Mateo/Santa Clara Counties Regional Climate Collaborative envisions equipping marginalized and underserved communities to adapt to climate change. The Collaborative achieves this through the development of disaster-resilient strategies and equitable infrastructure to help both residents and natural systems thrive amid climate threats.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will bridge the gap between identified local community priorities and the climate disaster preparedness planning processes and outcomes happening at the county and municipal level. In addition, the proposed project will help to bridge the communication gap between the way climate disaster impacts are discussed at the community level and at the government level.

Contact

Tegan Hoffmann

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[Coastal Quest](https://www.coastal-quest.org)

South LA All In Regional Climate Collaborative

Region

Los Angeles



Area of Focus

Technical Assistance; Climate Action Planning; Social Infrastructure.

Requested Investment

\$1,750,000

Partners

Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD), Community Coalition, University of Southern California, and The Center for Nonprofit Management.

Summary

As trusted local organizations in South Los Angeles, the Collaborative focuses on areas heavily impacted by environmental pollutants, limited green space, and underdeveloped climate resilience infrastructure due to years of disinvestment. One of the biggest challenges the Collaborative will address is a knowledge gap about the climate issues residents, organizations, and business owners in South Los Angeles are most concerned about and the community-driven solutions they would like to see implemented.

Solution

The South LA All In Regional Climate Collaborative brings together a diverse and seasoned group of partners to strengthen social infrastructure in South Los Angeles and increase access of historically disinvested community to climate-action resources. The Collaborative will prioritize making information accessible on the impact of climate change and collecting qualitative data, placing the community's priorities front and center for policy makers and local public agencies as they implement significant climate-action projects in the region.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will fund workshops to help community-based organizations improve their readiness and competitiveness for climate-action projects. It will also provide technical assistance to enhance grant applications. The Collaborative will build on existing efforts to engage residents, community organizations, and other stakeholders through proven strategies that prioritize community input. These efforts will boost social infrastructure, support local climate-action plans, improve regional coordination, and increase access to climate-related investments.

Contact

Ricardo Mendoza

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Coalition for Responsible Community Development

Stanislaus Sustainable Communities Coalition

Region

Stanislaus County



Area of Focus

Community Engagement; Job Training; Data Gathering/Analysis.

Requested Investment

\$1,750,000

Partners

Stanislaus County Health Services Agency, Tuolumne River Trust, Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton, California Health Collaborative, and Valley Improvement Projects.

Summary

Climate burdens are increasing in Stanislaus County, with temperatures reaching 90 degrees Fahrenheit an average of 85 days per year – a 56% increase since 2012. From 2017 to 2021, there were 506 heat-related emergency department visits after temperatures exceeded 100 degrees, accounting for 52% of all such visits.

Solution

The Stanislaus Sustainable Communities Coalition is focused on promoting equity and addressing climate change resilience and mitigation in unincorporated communities throughout Stanislaus County. The Collaborative will act as a bridge between community groups and local decision makers, convening those who are working on climate, health and environmental justice issues to successfully apply for funding and support the development of climate-resilient communities.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will enhance community capacity for long-term planning. Funding will support training and leadership development for residents from disadvantaged communities, creating new partnerships. It will also improve data gathering, and analysis to better plan for and respond to climate impacts. Additionally, funding will help expand outreach, engage youth and adult community members, provide tailored training, build strong community connections for skills and job training, and pursue sustainable funding solutions for ongoing and long-term climate resilience support.

Contact

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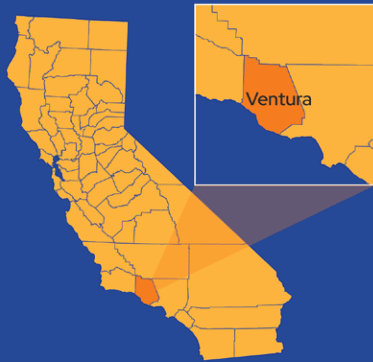
(209) 525-4834

Health Services Agency - Stanislaus County

Ventura County Regional Climate Collaborative

Region

Ventura County



Area of Focus

Climate Action Planning; Community Outreach; Language Accessibility.

Requested Investment

\$1,478,948

Partners

Ventura County Community Foundation, Central Coast Climate Collaborative (4C), Central Coast Climate Justice Network (CCCJN), Community Environmental Council (CEC), Ventura County Resource Conservation District, Ventura County Public Health, and County of Ventura Sustainability Division.

Summary

The Ventura County Regional Climate Collaborative aims to drive equitable and sustainable climate action in one of the fastest-warming regions in the continental U.S. The focus is on supporting stakeholders who influence climate planning, empowering underserved individuals to contribute to resilience projects, and addressing the needs of outdoor and agricultural workers, as well as the unhoused, who are affected by extreme heat. The Collaborative prioritizes the voices of those impacted by structural inequities.

Solution

The Ventura County Regional Climate Collaborative aims to empower those most affected by global warming to lead climate action in Ventura County. The Collaborative will work to ensure that local organizations serving their diverse neighborhoods have adequate resources to co-develop strategies that are effective, innovative, scalable, locally relevant, sustainable, and benefit all members of our communities. The effort prioritizes the voices of those facing structural inequities through extensive outreach, translation services, and funded participation.

Impact

Investing in this Collaborative will fund outreach efforts, translation services, and community engagement activities focused on language and social justice. Funding will ensure local organizations have the resources to develop effective, innovative, and sustainable strategies that benefit all Ventura communities.

Contact

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[Ventura County Community Foundation](https://www.vccf.org)