

Community Change Grants Selections

The applications on this page have been selected to help disadvantaged communities tackle environmental and climate justice challenges through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity. Made possible by President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act, the Community Change Grants Program is the single largest investment in environmental and climate justice in history.

[Learn more about the Community Change Grants Program](#)

The [Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights](#) (OEJECR) received approximately 2,700 applications for the Community Change Grants Program, requesting more than \$40 billion in funding. OEJECR is continuing the review and evaluation process for the Community Change Grants Program and will provide applicants with updates.

Given the overwhelming number of applications, OEJECR anticipates that the work to review applications will need to continue into the spring of 2025. OEJECR does not anticipate making any additional selections until all remaining applications are evaluated according to the processes described in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

[Read the December 12, 2024 Community Change Grants Selections Announcement.](#)

[Read the July 25, 2024 Community Change Grants Initial Selections Announcement.](#)

Last Updated: December 12, 2024



For the Track I of the program, Community-Driven Investments for Change, applicants are implementing community-scale projects to address environmental and climate justice challenges.

For Track II, Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance, applicants will facilitate individual and community participation in governmental decision-making processes.

The Community Change Grants also included five Target Investment Areas (TIAs). The five TIAs were designed to help to help ensure that communities with unique circumstances, geography, and needs can equitably compete for funding.

[Community Change Grants Program: Summary of Selections \(pdf\)](#) (365.9 KB)

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Region	State/Territory	Lead Applicant	Statutory Partner	Application Name	Track	TIA Category	Amount Requested	Summary
1	Connecticut	City of New Haven	Greater Dwight Development Corporation	Elm City Climate Collaborative	Track I	n/a	\$20 million	Climate Resilience Corridors. Building on the Resilient Fair Haven Plan (2023), the City of New Haven will work with Urban Resources Initiative and other partners to identify and establish 5,000 feet of climate resilience corridors that traverse Fair Haven and other neighborhoods. They will create new greenways and improve sidewalks by removing concrete or asphalt, establishing a

								permeable strip along the sidewalk, installing specially engineered tree pits that capture stormwater, and planting street trees. The Elm City Climate Collaborative will recruit and support owners of multi-unit buildings to install energy-efficient and health-related upgrades. An estimated 350 buildings will receive comprehensive energy assessments through Energize CT. The Collaborative will offer grants of up to \$100,000 for energy upgrades at community development corporation-sponsored new or substantially rehabilitated affordable housing projects. The Collaborative also will expand bike share programs and work to increase community-based composting to reduce food waste.
1	Massachusetts	City of Springfield, MA	Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts	Green and Resilient Springfield	Track I	n/a	\$19.99 million	The City of Springfield and the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts will support the transformation of a post-industrial city toward resilience with this multi-faceted project. They will invest in a community solar project; retrofit 30 one- to four-unit homes to reduce energy use and improve indoor air quality; and complete home rehabilitation projects to remove lead and other pollution hazards. They will convert two city-owned buildings to non-grid clean

								energy sources and expand their use as community resilience hubs and emergency shelter locations. They also will expand tree canopy by planting 1,500 trees; restart a city e-bikeshare program; and support a workforce development program for HVAC-R technicians.
1	Massachusetts	JSI Research and Training Institute, Inc.	Mauricio Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy	Enhancing Equitable Community Engagement in Governance for Environmental and Climate Justice in East Boston (EJ Engaged East Boston)	Track II	n/a	\$3 million	The EJ Engaged East Boston project will create a Community Advisory Council (CAC), composed of 20 representatives from underserved communities in East Boston, to increase the communities' meaningful engagement in government processes, including participatory budgeting. The project also will establish bi-directional communication pathways between community members and city government officials and offer training for East Boston community members.
1	Rhode Island	Rhode Island Food Policy Council	Groundwork Rhode Island	From Food Waste to Opportunity: A Path toward Climate, Environmental, & Economic Justice in Rhode Island	Track I	n/a	\$20 million	Serving disadvantaged communities in Providence, Pawtuck, Central Falls, Newport, and Middletown, Rhode Island, this project takes a multilevel approach to food waste reduction, donation, and recycling. By engaging many collaborators, including municipal and nonprofit community-based organizations deeply embedded within their defined community, the

								Rhode Island Food Policy Council and Groundwork Rhode Island will decrease the food wasted within schools, businesses, and homes; increase donations from food businesses to non-profits; and increase both the capacity for compost processing and participation in these programs. This project will provide direct technical assistance to schools and businesses, train community members, set up local and centralized composting options, and engage with the community to reach the project's objectives.
2	New Jersey	Ironbound Community Corporation	Newark Office of Emergency Management	Enhancing Community Resilience with Microgrid Technology	Track I	n/a	\$20 million	Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) will develop a mobile microgrid powered by solar panels and battery energy storage systems in the Ironbound neighborhood of Newark, NJ. Collaborating closely with the Newark Office of Emergency Management (OEM), ICC is developing comprehensive contingency plans for deploying the microgrid during emergencies. The project will establish Community Resilience Hubs at critical community facilities that will use mobile battery microgrids and solar power systems to provide backup power. The project also will establish an electric vehicle charging area on the Ferry Street Farm site, including

								charging for two heavy-duty electric vehicles and six light-duty vehicles, and purchase two electric passenger vans and an electric passenger vehicle to serve the transportation needs of Ironbound residents.
2	New York	People United for Sustainable Housing Inc	Community Network for Engagement, Connection, and Transformation (CoNECT)	The Buffalo Neighborhood Mobilization Hubs Plan	Track I	n/a	\$20 million	The applicants and their partners, including Erie County, the City of Buffalo, and Buffalo Public Schools, will launch 150 Neighborhood Mobilization Hubs in Buffalo's disadvantaged communities to provide access to support services during emergencies. Each Hub will have emergency equipment such as backup generators, snow removal equipment, portable solar kits, batteries, and walkie-talkies. To prepare for shelter-in-place emergencies, the project will purchase 150 portable network kits for the Hubs and 150 solar kits to power them, wired (ethernet) internet access, cabling tools and supplies, and computers/tablets/cell phones that will be stored at Community Tech Labs. The project also will support local workforce training in solar installation, energy efficiency upgrades, and other trades and conduct outreach to potential employers.
2	New York	Rockaway Waterfront Alliance, Inc DBA RISE Rockaway	New York City Department of Parks & Recreation Natural	Rockaway Coastal Resilience Dune Restoration Project	Track I	n/a	\$11.2 million	The Rockaway Coastal Resilience Dune Restoration Project will restore and protect 3 miles of coastal shoreline and

			Resources Group					maritime habitats to reduce pollution with nature-based solutions that not only improve local ecosystems but also build stronger barriers against storm surges. The project will produce plants and seeds appropriate for dune and coastal habitat restoration in two NYC-based nurseries and use them to restore three miles of dune habitat at the Rockaway Dune Preserve Site. While protecting the natural habitat, RISE will also reduce solid waste, trash, and marine debris from the beaches in Arverne and Rockaway. The project will also expand economic opportunity through paid workforce development programs for low-income residents of Arverne and Far Rockaway to support the coastal restoration, nursery, and related work.
2	New York	Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, inc.	Clean and Healthy New York, Inc.	ALL(bany) Together - Climate and Health Resilience Equity Project	Track I	n/a	\$20 million	Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, inc. and Clean and Healthy New York, Inc. will increase resiliency for the disadvantaged communities of Albany, NY. The project will build two community resilience hubs, increase access to accessible workforce training, reduce urban heat-island effects by investing in green infrastructure, increase community composting, and work with local building trades professional and general contractors to conduct home energy audits,

								home inspections, and remediate indoor pollution. This project will increase resiliency to extreme weather events among Albany's most vulnerable neighborhoods for generations due to improved infrastructure, disaster preparedness training, and reduced chronic exposure to indoor pollutants.
2	New York	Bronx River Alliance, Inc	Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice	Uplifting Bronx Voices for Climate Change Resilience	Track II	n/a	\$1 million	The Bronx River Alliance and Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice will convene a Bronx Climate Justice Task Force to speak with a coordinated voice to decision-makers that are shaping the future of climate resiliency in the Bronx. The project will ensure disadvantaged communities in the Bronx fully participate in planning and implementation decisions about coastal adaptation, habitat restoration, and related local, state, and federal infrastructure projects.
2	New York	WE ACT for Environmental Justice	Pratt Center for Community Development	EJNYC: Community-Based Solutions for Environmental Justice	Track II	n/a	\$3 million	WE ACT and its partners will ensure that community perspectives, priorities, and solutions are represented in New York City's environmental justice planning processes. To achieve this goal, this project will first conduct a series of community conversations, informed by the 2024 Environmental Justice NYC Report released by the New York City Mayor's Office of

							Climate & Environmental Justice, in neighborhoods across NYC's five boroughs and synthesize this community input into a set of priorities and strategies. The project will then identify implementation opportunities across city-led initiatives and carry out a citywide communications push to raise communities' awareness of the proposed solutions.
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Last updated on December 23, 2024

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