CCEEJ

An EPA Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center
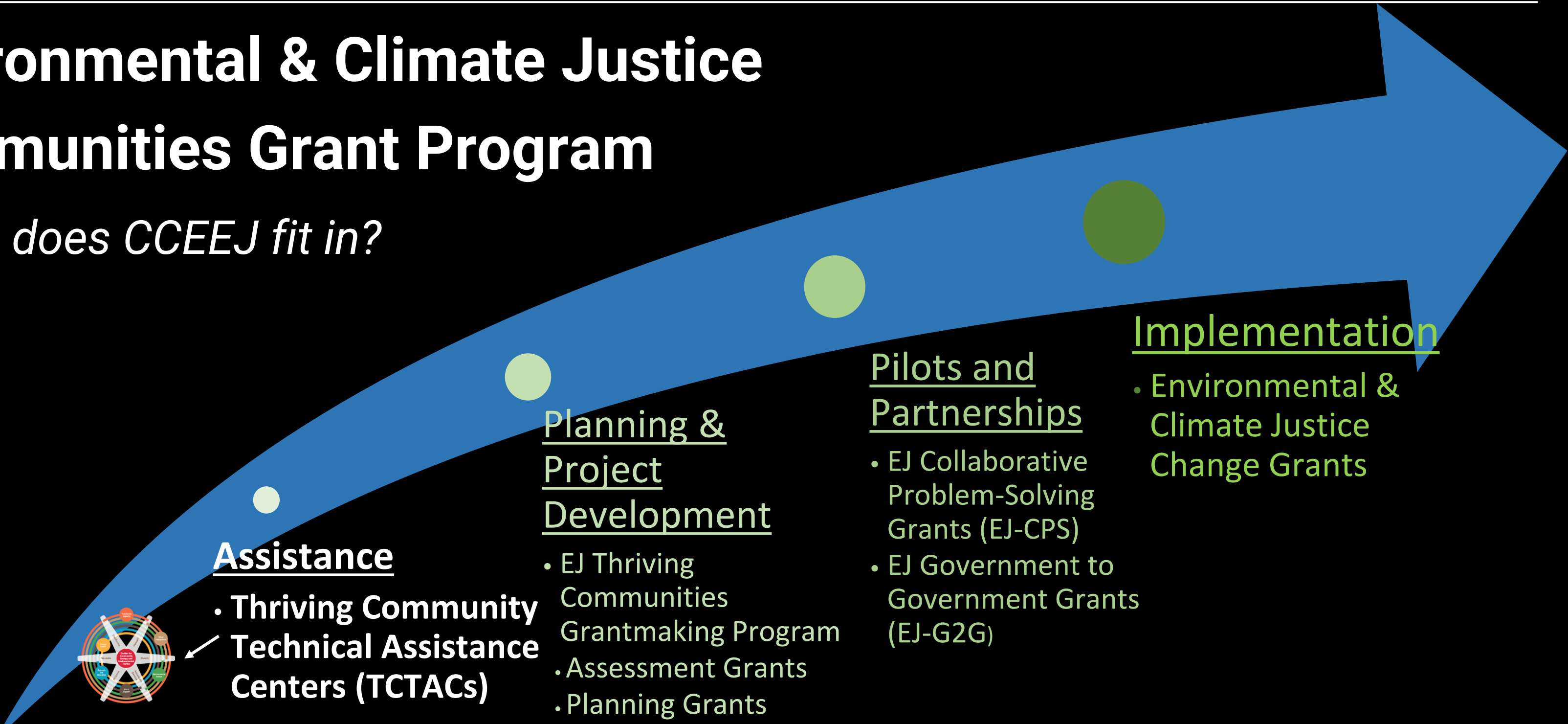
2024 Winter RTOC

Agenda

- Introduce you to the Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice (CCEEJ)

- Discuss how CCEEJ fits into the EPA's grants programs

- Highlight participating organizations/institutions

- Describe the TA services

- Case study example and how to get started

- Upcoming events

- Q&A

Environmental & Climate Justice Communities Grant Program

Where does CCEEJ fit in?

Implementation

- Environmental & Climate Justice Change Grants

Pilots and Partnerships

- EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Grants (EJ-CPS)
- EJ Government to Government Grants (EJ-G2G)

Planning & Project Development

- EJ Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program
- Assessment Grants
- Planning Grants

Assistance

- **Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)**

Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)

- **$177 million** nationwide

  - Each TCTAC received at least $10 million funded incrementally

  - 5-year project period

  - Inter-agency and Intra-agency partner - Department of Energy (DOE)

- **Regional EJ TCTACs**

  - Provide direct TA to communities in assigned EPA regions/geographic area(s)

- **National EJ TCTACs**

  - Will coordinate with the Regional EJ TCTACs, fill gaps in coverage, develop national databases, host TA summits, etc.

  - National EJ TCTAC devoted specifically to addressing the needs of tribal communities
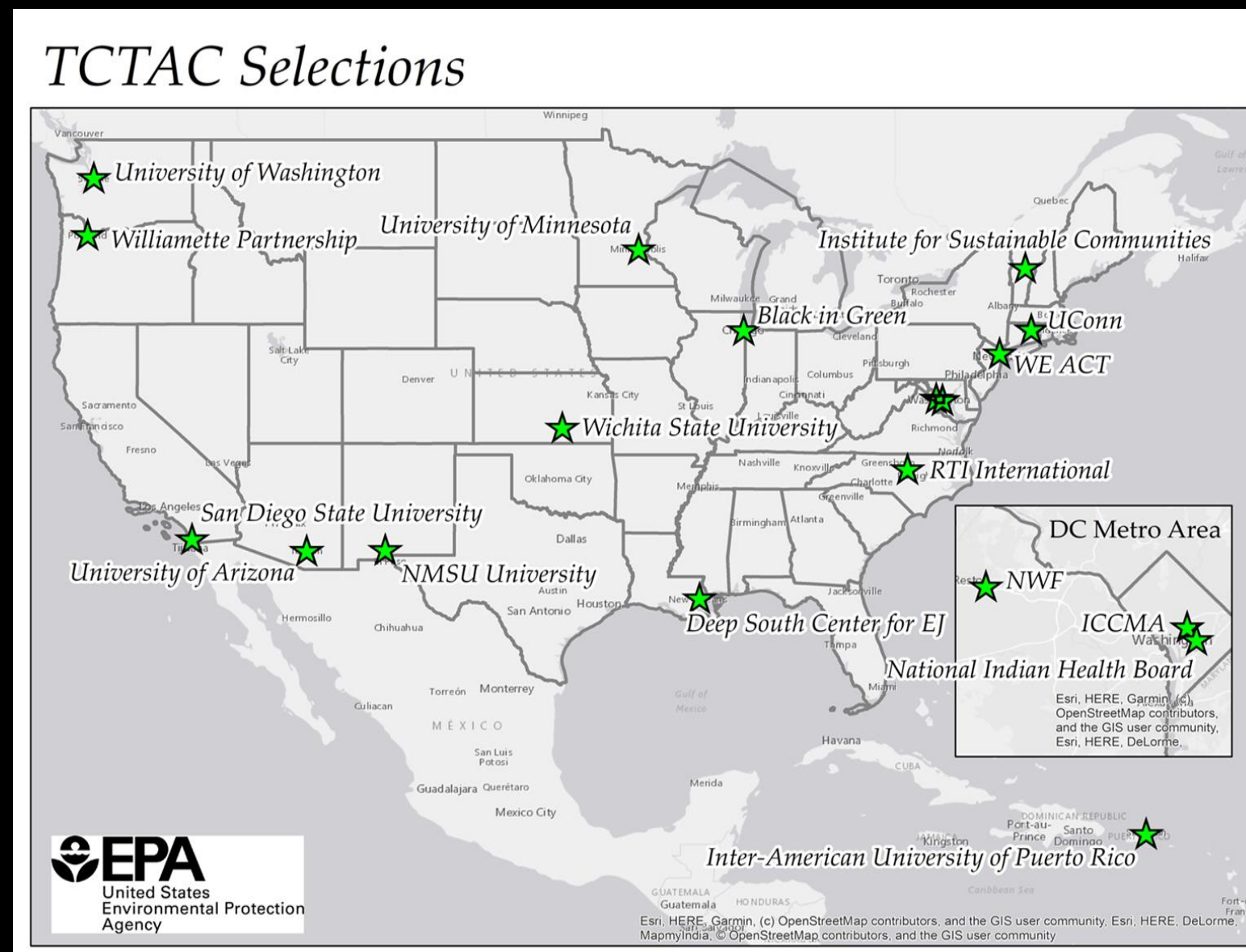
EPA Region 9

- American Samoa

- Arizona

- California

- Guam

- Hawai`i

- Northern Mariana Islands

- Nevada

Western Environmental Science Technical Assistance Center for Environmental Justice (WEST EJ Center)

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Phone: (520) 626-1370
Email: WestEJ-Center@arizona.edu
Website: WESTEJCenter.arizona.edu

Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice
San Diego State University

- University of San Diego Energy Policy Initiatives Center — *California*
- Center for Creative Land Recycling — *California*
- Climate Science Alliance — *California*
- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals — *Nationwide*
- Desert Research Institute — *Nevada*
- Pacific Research on Island Solutions for Adaptation — *Pacific Islands*
- Public Health Alliance — *California*
- Arizona State University — *Arizona*
- University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability — *Pacific Islands*
- Environmental Protection Network — *Nationwide*

SDSU | Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice

Meet the Subteams

Grants, administration, and leadership capacity

- San Diego State University
- Environmental Protection Network

Environmental Quality and Health

- Public Health Alliance (PHA)
- Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR)
- Climate Science Alliance (CSA)
- Environmental Protection Network
- Institute for Environmental Tribal Professionals (ITEP)

Meet the Subteams

Tribal and Indigenous

- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)
- Climate Science Alliance (CSA)
- University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability
- Desert Research Institute (DRI)

Energy

- University of San Diego's Energy Policy Initiatives Center (USD EPIC)
- Arizona State University (ASU)
- Pacific Research on Island Solutions and Adaptation (Pacific RISA)
- University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability

Services at CCEEJ

- Translation and interpretation of technical documents and other local languages

- Knowledge of relevant laws, regulations, policies

- Technical expertise in energy/energy policy

- Technical expertise in environmental health and quality

- Connecting to a network of partners

Services at CCEEJ

Environmental and energy justice needs assessment and analyses

Facilitating navigation of government systems

Identifying grant opportunities

Increasing grant-getting, administrative and grant management capacity

Supporting decision-making participation

Training community leaders

Examples of Technical Assistance

Grants, administration, and leadership capacity

- Grant writing support (templates, application reviews, training)
- SAM.gov and grants.gov trainings/office hours
- Strategic funding opportunities (federal, state, local)
- Leadership development

Environmental Quality and Health

- Identifying EJ funding
- Remediation support
- Land redevelopment/planning/property use support
- Healthy Places Index (HPI)

Examples of Technical Assistance

Tribal and Indigenous

- Identifying tribal-specific grant opportunities
- Trainings and workshops geared towards tribal and indigenous communities, particularly around environmental health
- Professional and leadership development
- Environmental justice/energy justice assessments, **and more!**

Energy

- Energy policy and law expertise
- 1:1 advising
- Trainings and workshops: Intro to Energy Justice, EnJ tools, DOE community benefits plans, federal/state strategies

What community organizations are eligible for technical assistance ?

- non-profit organizations
- community-based/grassroots organizations
- philanthropic and civic organizations
- underserved communities and organizations
- rural and remote communities and organizations
- faith-based organizations and churches

- educational institutions
- disadvantaged businesses
- local and state governments
- Tribal nations and other tribal organizations, communities
- US Territories
- Utility and healthcare providers and clinics

Case Study Example

Organization XYZ is a Tribal organization located in Southern California. In their community, there are 2 old, abandoned gas stations that they want to clean up and re-develop into a recreational green space for their community

They are unsure where to start with this project. They have some experience with writing grants and have been awarded grants before for other projects. They are unsure what kinds of funding opportunities they should be looking for to support this project.

Case Study Example

Organization XYZ has the option to request **free** technical assistance from CCEEJ

- Tribal organization
- Environmental justice focused project (brownfields/land re-use project)
- Unsure of where to even start

Let's see how they can request assistance!

How to Request Technical Assistance

Step 1: Requesting assistance

- **Direct email:** cceej@sdsu.edu
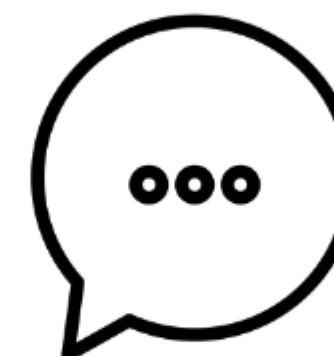- **Direct phone number:** (619) 594 - 8287

- **Visit cceej.sdsu.edu to access our request form**

Scan Here!

We want to connect with you

Sign up for our mailing list and newsletter ›

Request technical assistance ›

Find partners ›

How to Request Technical Assistance

Step 2: Filling out our form

- Contact information
- Information on the organization
- Assessing environmental/energy justice concerns and assistance needs
- Barriers in addressing these concerns
- Preferred method of contact

Questions are **not required**. You can simply fill out contact and organization information

CCEEJ Technical Assistance Request

SDSU's Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice (CCEEJ) is an EPA-supported Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center, supporting efforts in California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands. CCEEJ is committed to helping community organizations by providing technical assistance that includes: conducting environmental and energy Justice Needs Assessment and analyses, facilitate navigation of government systems, identifying grant opportunities, increase grant getting and administration capacity, supporting decision-making participation, advancing community champions.

Although the types of TA we provide will change and grow with time, we want to gain an understanding for the types of TA you are interested in receiving. To help us understand your needs, please provide us with feedback by filling in and submitting this form. The center will use your feedback for internal uses only.

lhalili@sdsu.edu Switch account

Not shared

Contact Name

Your answer

Email address (if applicable)

Your answer

Case Study Example

Organization XYZ chooses to fill out the CCEEJ technical assistance request form on their website.

Rather than filling out the entire form, Organization XYZ fills out their name, email, organization name, and the name of their Tribal nation. They would prefer to discuss the rest of the information over the intake meeting call.

They submit their form and wait to hear back from a CCEEJ team member.

Intake Meeting

Step 3: Scheduling your 1:1 Intake

- After you have submitted your technical assistance request via the three methods, a CCEEJ team member will reach out to you to schedule a 1:1 intake call.

- These are 30 minute virtual calls that can be held on Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, or phone call. The purpose of these intake calls is to:
  - Learn more about your organization
  - Understand the environmental/energy justice challenges and priorities that the community you serve is facing
  - Understand assistance needs
  - Assess grant readiness

Case Study Example

- Organization XYZ schedules a Zoom call with CCEEJ and provides information on their organization and their needs.
- Information collected from Organization XYZ
  - Tribal organization located in Southern California
  - Needs assistance with brownfields and land re-use. Specifically two abandoned gas stations that they want to re-develop into recreational green space
  - Has applied to smaller grants before and has been awarded some. Is interested in applying for federal funding, but is unsure if they have registered for SAM.gov or grants.gov
  - Would like help identifying funding opportunities relevant to this project

Receiving your Technical Assistance Plan
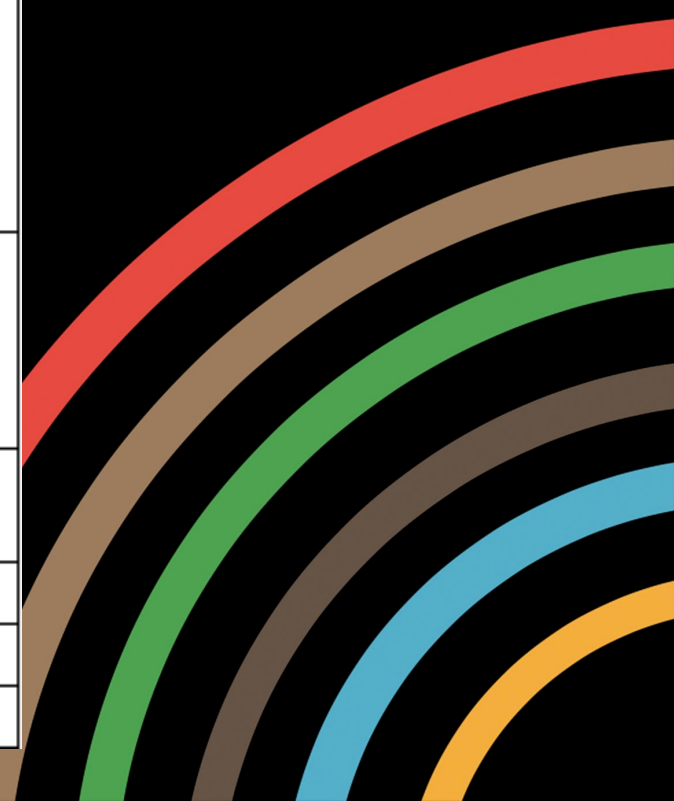
Step 4: Reviewing Intake Notes

- The CCEEJ grants administration and leadership team meets on a weekly basis to review any standing intake meeting notes from TA requests
- We discuss what grant support services we can offer and which subteams would best fit the organization's technical assistance needs.

Step 5: Sending the TA plan

- After coming to an agreement, we then send a technical assistance plan via email, phone call, text, etc. for your organization's review and approval
- We then will connect you to our subteam lead, if applicable. Tribal organizations are automatically referred to our Tribal and Indigenous team

Grant Support, Administrative and Leadership Capacity		Description
☑ Identifying potential grants		Create a curated list of potential funding opportunities that are specific to your organizaiton
	☑ Federal grants	
	☑ State grants	
	☑ Foundation grants	
	☐ Other	
☑ Navigating federal websites		Provide training and guidance on how to navigate federal grant websites step-by-step. Specific guidance includes, but is not limited to, how to search for funding opportunities, how to obtain your UEI number through sam.gov, how to create your workspace in grants.gov, and more
☑ Grant writing support [templates]		Accessible grant writing templates for various components of a grant application package, such as project narrative, project workplan,and budget and budget allocaiton, organizational background, and various supporting documents that may be specific to certain grants your organizaiton is applying for.
☑ Grant writing support [trainings/webinars/tutorials]		Grant writing support trainings, webinars, and tutorials will be hands-on and interactive, as experts from SDSU and the EPA will present on different funding opportunities, give live tutorials for naviigating grant applications and funding opportunity announcements, and provide trainings on effectively managing a grant, such as how to apply for and manage a grant for your organizaiton effectively.
☐ Grant administration and management support		Provide ongoing support even after a grant is awarded to guide organizations on how to properly manage a grant once it is awarded. This can include managing budgets and budget allocations, progress reporting, and understanding various standards and policies with a grant, such as procurement or subaward standards.
☐ EJ & EnJ policy/law expertise		Expert knowledge and guidance on any applicable environmental justice or energy justice laws and policies that may affect an organizaiton.
☐ Partnership building		Facilitating partnership building and collaboration connections
☐ Translation services		Translate materials in to plain language and/or other languages of interest.
☐ Other		

Environmental Quality and Health		Description
☐ Remediation support		Conduct environmental site assessments and due diligence, as well as interpret environmental technical reports (e.g., remedial investigations, site aqssessments, analysis) and regulatory requirements in plain language.
☑ Redevelopment planning/property reuse support		Creating strategic plans, work plans and setting goals for propertry reuse.
☑ Trainings/workshops:		
	☑ Funding opportunities and creative financing	
	☐ Brownfields 101	
	☐ Environmental justice	
	☐ Equitable development	
	☐ Climate change adaptation/mitigation	
	☐ Affordable housing	
	☐ Other:	*CCLR provides other custom trainings
☑ 1:1 advising		
☐ Stakeholder engagement		
☐ Healthy Place Index (public health measures)		Includes policy guides, trainings an tutorials on how to use Health Places Index mapping tool that is generalled used for assessment of community conditions, climate vulnerability/resilience.
☐ Gathering existing data to support applicaitons		
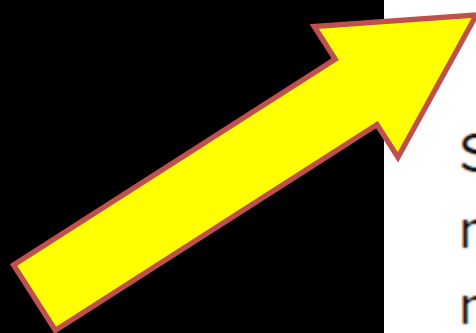
writing for green

Grant Writing Training Opportunities
(projected early 2024)

Live Training	Guided Training	Webinars/Office Hours
• 6-8 week intensive training using Writing for Green content (hosted over Zoom) • Participation stipend available (amount TBD) • Sessions include individual and small group work, hands-on exercises, and peer-to-peer feedback	• Hosted on Writing for Green's learning management system • Access to content from live training curriculum through video lessons (~45 minutes each) • Learn at your own pace • Access to coaches who can provide feedback on writing exercises	• CCEEJ hosted webinars on specific grant-writing topics using Writing for Green curriculum (hosted over Zoom)

writing for green

Grant Writing Training Modules

Elevator Pitch	Telling the Story	Understanding the RFA	Structuring the Narrative
Creating a Detailed Task List	Leading Your Team	The Discovery Process	Writing SMART Goals & Objectives
Writing with Authority - Creating Great Content	Slaying Ambiguity	Describing the Workplan & Methodology	What's the Problem?
Logic Model	Creating a Strong Evaluation Plan	Budgets Made Easy & The Budget Narrative	Communicating with Foundations

Upcoming CCEEJ Outreach Events!

- Teach-Ins/Webinars
  - Unveiling Energy Justice: Exploring the Basics | *February 29th, 2024 3:00 PM PST*
  - Environmental Justice Funding for Brownfields | *March 7th, 2024 2:00 PM EST*
  - Introduction to Healthy Places Index (HPI) | *March 19th, 2024 11:00 AM PST*

- Trainings/Office Hours
  - SAM.gov Office Hours | *Multiple Dates!*
    - February 14th, 28th
    - March 13th, 27th
    - April 10th, and 24th
  - Register here

Frequently Asked Questions

Q:
Does CCEEJ provide funding for community projects?

A: CCEEJ can provide:
- assistance for grant getting
- training and support for environmental and energy justice priorities and projects

Q:
My organization is interested in grant writing. Is technical assistance available for that?

A: CCEEJ can provide:
- guidance documents for specific grant applications
- accessible white papers with relevant technical information
- grant writing training, webinars, and tutorials

Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice

Connect with Us

Sign up for our mailing list and newsletter

🌐 cceej.sdsu.edu

📞 (619) 594-8287

✉️ cceej@sdsu.edu

📷 @cceej.sdsu

ⓕ SDSU Center for

in Community Energy and Environmental Justice