

2021 CLIMATE CAREERS PROGRAM REPORT



RISING SUN
CENTER FOR OPPORTUNITY



Since 2000, Rising Sun Center for Opportunity's Climate Careers program has operated as a highly innovative employment social enterprise, recruiting local youth into a meaningful earn-and-learn experience.

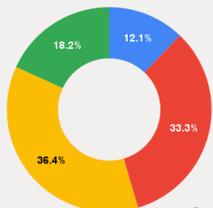
Operating under previously established COVID-19 practices, in 2021, Climate Careers continued to prioritize health and safety: instead of sending youth into the community for in-person engagement with residents, the program offered its services remotely—over the phone, via video call, and online. In addition, youth participants took advantage of weekly online professional development workshops designed to build their professional skills and repertoire; increase their financial literacy; and improve their knowledge and understanding of environmental justice issues in their communities. Following the completion of Green House Call programming and for the first time ever, participants were then able to put their newfound skill sets into action through paid career exploration opportunities with trusted secondary partner organizations working in the clean economy.

In 2021, Rising Sun partnered with BayREN and California's Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities Program (TCC) with funds from California Climate Investments to train and hire 33 local youth and serve 2,162 residents, throughout all nine counties of BayREN territory and the designated territory in San Joaquin county, with a Green House Call and energy efficiency kit. To date, Rising Sun has served 55,282 Green House Calls and trained and employed 2,018 youth participants.

YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS

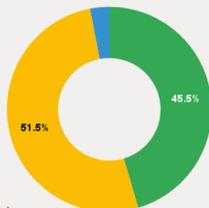
Race & Ethnicity

● Asian ● Black ● Latine/Hispanic ● Other



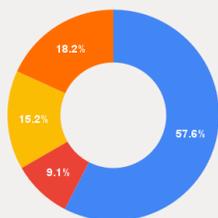
Gender Identity

● Female ● Male ● Non-Binary



Current Education Level

● Traditional High School ● Alternative High School ● College ● Not in School



YOUTH TESTIMONIAL

"I loved working at Rising Sun and it was a perfect first job. When I applied for a new job I felt confident in myself because of the skills I picked up from here."
- Jayleen Carter-Kindberg, Energy Assistant 2021

CLIMATE CAREERS' CAREER EXPLORATION

For the first time ever, Climate Careers piloted a post-Green House Call extended earn-and-learn opportunity, placing youth program participants into internships with external partners to provide them with an additional 120 hours of paid, real-world work experience in the clean economy. During this time, participants build social capital, increase transferable and employable skills, explore additional pathways to employment, demonstrate their abilities to perform in a professional environment, and build their resume. In 2021, 19 youth took advantage of this programmatic extension, joining partner organizations including but not limited to: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, National Science Foundation ITEST Program - Bay Area, and GRID Alternatives.



ENERGY & WATER SAVINGS

In 2021, 2,441 energy efficiency kits filled with energy- and water-saving devices were sent to local homes within the nine Bay Area Counties and designated area in San Joaquin County. Assuming that clients installed all measures included, energy and water savings equate to an annual reduction of 1,005,560 kWh of electricity, 46,558 therms of heat, and 10,142,699 gallons of water, preventing 951 metric tons of CO2 from entering the atmosphere each year. This is equivalent to avoiding CO2 greenhouse gas emissions from the following:



2,380,303

miles driven by an average passenger vehicle



108,559

gallons of gasoline consumed



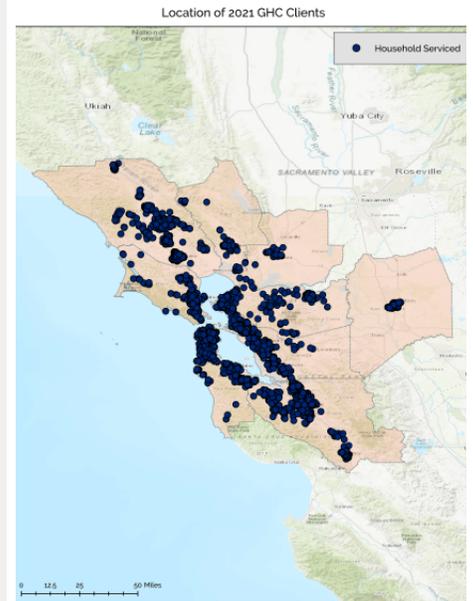
164

homes electricity use for one year



122,820,096

smartphones charged



MATERIALS DELIVERED



9,140

LED flood light bulbs



26,796

LED globe light bulbs



2,496

efficient-flow showerheads



6,843

kitchen and bathroom aerators



2,441

tier-2 advanced power strips



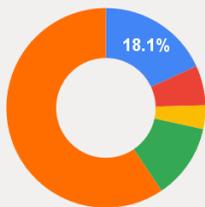
2,441

LED night lights

HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS

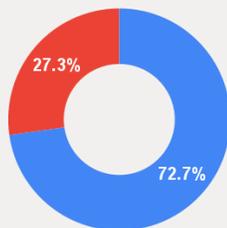
Non-English Language

● Spanish ● Chinese Languages ● Vietnamese ● Other
● No Second Language



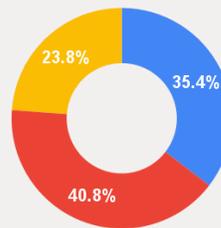
Households

● Owner ● Renter



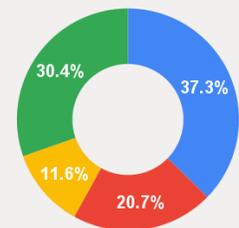
Income

● Low Income ● Moderate Income ● High Income



Race & Ethnicity

● Caucasian ● Hispanic/Latinx ● Mixed Race ● Other



*Percentages based off clients who responded to voluntary demographic questions



CLIENT FEEDBACK

"I really appreciate you [Rising Sun] going above and beyond what is required from you in terms of assistance and information to support clients and communities live a more climate-conscious life."

"Thank you so very much for the kit. As I am on a very limited fixed income, I appreciate all you have provided. Thank you so much for your time and kindness. The kit looks awesome."