

2023-24 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THRIVING COMMUNITIES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS PROGRAM (EJ TCTAC)

Project Summaries by Geographic Area

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is announcing the selection of 16 selectees for the Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program (EJ TCTACs or Program.) Seventeen organizations and their partners have been selected to receive a total of approximately \$177 million to establish a network of technical assistance centers (Centers) across the nation providing direct technical assistance, training, and capacity-building support to communities and organizations to advance environmental and energy justice priorities. With this critical investment, the Centers will provide training and other assistance to build capacity of local grassroots nonprofit organizations, tribal governments, and other similar community stakeholders in navigating federal, state, and private grant application systems such as Grants.gov and SAM.gov, writing stronger grant proposals, and effectively managing grant funding. In addition, these Centers will provide guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants, thus removing barriers and improving accessibility to resources for communities with environmental justice concerns. Each of the Centers will also create and manage communication channels to ensure all communities have direct access to resources and information. Final awards are subject to administrative and legal reviews to verify compliance with applicable requirements.

EPA and the US Department of Energy (DOE) will cooperatively fund these 16 awards, which will feature 13 Regional Centers and 3 National Centers working collaboratively across the United States supporting communities. These 16 awards will be in the form of incrementally funded cooperative agreements where EPA and DOE staff will have substantial involvement in the oversight and implementation of the Program. The establishment of this Program and Centers is in direct response to feedback from communities and environmental justice leaders who have long called for technical assistance and capacity building support for communities and their partners as they work to access critical federal, state, and private resources and engage in decision-making that impacts them. The 16 Centers will provide comprehensive coverage for the entire United States through a network of over 160 partners including community-based organizations, additional academic institutions, and other stakeholders so more communities can access federal funding opportunities like those made available through President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law as well as funding from states and private foundations.

All centers are currently scheduled to operate from October 2023 to October 2028.

For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-thrivingcommunities-technical-assistance-centers>.

EPA Region 1

Although the region has selected its TCTAC, they are not ready to make this information available to the public.

EPA REGION 2

Recipient: Inter-American University of Puerto Rico-Metro Campus (IAUPR)

Applicant Type: Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Project Title: EAGEL (E= Engage and A=Assist G= Grassroots organizations for E= Environmental/Energy Justice and L= Leadership capacity building)

Location: EPA Region #2, Puerto Rico (PR) and US Virgin Islands (USVI)

Project Partners:

- WE ACT
- Community Engineering Corps
- NJ Science and Technology University
- Vitrina Solidaria
- Energy Justice of Puerto Rico
- Environmental Protection Network

Contact Information

- Phone Numbers: (787) 250-1912 (ext: 2142, 2155 or 2123)
- Email: ygovender@metro.inter.edu
- Website: <https://eagle.metro.inter.edu/>
- Calendar of Events are posted by trimester on the website: <https://eagle.metro.inter.edu/eagle-evento/>

Intake Form:

- To request TA, visit EAGLE Hubs, email or call the center.

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The EAGEL EJ TCTAC will create HUBS in Puerto Rico and USVI using a highly successful Small Business Technology Development Center (SBDC) model previously implemented in by IAUPR in Puerto Rico. EAGEL's goal is to "Build Community Capacity, Climate Resilience and Maximizing Benefits to Overburdened and Underserved Communities increasing EPA support for community-led action by providing investments and benefits directly to communities with environmental justice concerns and by integrating equity throughout Agency programs." Objective is to provide training, technical assistance (TA), and support for core areas viz. Collaborative problem-solving, Grants & Fundraising Capacity, and Environmental/Energy Justice Advocacy. Activities: Through a series of meetings, workshops, webinars both face-to-face and virtual the HUBS and partners will engage grassroots organizations in strengthening institutional capacity. The step-by-step unpacking of the identifying organizational, technical needs, creation of guides and manuals that are culturally and linguistically appropriate and a hands-on-approach for providing technical assistance and support to participants primarily in PR and USVI. EAGEL will develop

a HUB One Stop Center in Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands to provide eligible services for EEJ in underserved, rural, and remote communities. To establish the EAGEL Region #2 EJ TCTAC, IAUPR and partners will create educational and training modules on EJ TCTAC EPA core areas for collaborative problem-solving and leadership for civic engagement, grantsmanship & fundraising, environmental and energy justice advocacy. We also provide assistance on the EJ screening Tool.

EPA REGION 2

Recipient: West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. (WE ACT)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Project Title: WE ACT Technical Assistance Collaborative

Primary Project Location: EPA Region 2 (NJ, NY, and 8 federally recognized Indian Nations)

Project Partners:

- New York University School of Law Institute for Policy Integrity (Academic)
- Inter American University of Puerto Rico (In-kind Academic Partner)
- Columbia University Climate School (Academic)
- Environmental Protection Network (Nonprofit, Technical Assistance)
- Clean Energy Group (Nonprofit, Technical Assistance)
- New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (Nonprofit, Environmental Justice)
- South Ward Environmental Alliance (Nonprofit, Environmental Justice)

Contact Information:

- Email: ejtctac@weact.org
- Website: <https://www.weact.org/tctac/>

Intake Form:

- To request TA, fill out the intake form by accessing the link:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfhP3T1DcHjbuq16dYzAceQMZMiUkjW6P1EpKgntDy8DDo69w/viewform>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

WE ACT for Environmental Justice will lead and host an Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center for EPA Region 2 – the WE ACT Technical Assistance Collaborative – serving underserved, rural and remote communities within the area of service that includes New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands and eight Indian Nations. WE ACT is uniquely suited to serve as the EJ TCTAC lead because of their long history of engagement with decision-makers and stakeholders to address local environmental justice issues, and because of their own experience in building organizational capacity, from an unfunded volunteer organization to a nationally leading EJ organization with 30 staff and two offices, in Harlem (NYC) and Washington, DC. The WE ACT Technical Assistance Collaborative brings together academic partners with climate, policy, regulatory, and decision-making engagement expertise; outreach partners from across the region, with an emphasis on reaching rural and remote communities; and energy justice technical and funding expertise. Central features of the approach and design of the center include:

- **A Steering Committee**, comprising all the partners listed, along with additional community-based partners and technical assistance providers as deemed appropriate during the development and

life of the TCTAC. The Steering Committee will play a key role in program design, on evaluation and the incorporation of feedback, and ensuring that TA services and TA delivery are appropriate for the target constituencies.

- **An outreach network**, with locally based outreach partners, that extends throughout EPA Region 2, reaching underserved and rural/remote communities, including trainings and the referral network. The outreach network will also play a key role in incorporating community feedback, informing training design, and ongoing input to improve services and delivery and meet the needs of target communities.
- **A referral network**, to enhance the volume and breadth of services provided by the TCTAC.
- **A curriculum of trainings and resource library**, to provide ongoing trainings, materials, and resources on topics such as Environmental Health & Justice, Community Organizing, Policy & Civic Engagement, Grantmanship, and Energy Justice. All materials and content developed will eventually be stored on a public-facing learning management system.

EPA REGION 3

Recipient: National Wildlife Federation

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$12,000,000

Title: Mid-Atlantic Thriving Communities Hub (MATCH)

Location: EPA Region 3 (DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV, and 7 federally recognized tribes)

Partners:

The Region 3 TCTAC is co-led by the University of Maryland's (UMD) Center for Community Engagement, Environmental Justice and Health (CEEJH) and Environmental Finance Center (EFC). Partners include:

- Morgan State University
- West Virginia State University
- Centro De Apoyo Familiar (CAF)
- South Baltimore Community Land Trust (SBCLT)
- Overbrook Education Center
- Empower DC
- Sussex Health & Environmental Network (SHEN)/Sentinels of Eastern Shore Health (SESH)

Contact Information

- Phone Number: (202) 792-5350 or 1-800-757-1405
- Website: <https://www.nwf.org/Our-Work/Environmental-Justice/Region-3-TCTAC>

Intake Form or Method of TA Request

- To request TA, fill out the intake form by accessing the link below or call using the numbers above.
 - <https://airtable.com/appZGWWGjVj5Q6UGWc/paghQkRVxCrKUI3nq/form>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) will work with core partners (UMD CEEJH and UMD EFC) to design, operate and lead a Mid- Atlantic Thriving Communities Hub (MATCH) to be an Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center for EPA Region 3, serving the states of DE, MD, PA, VA, and WV and DC. NWF will work closely with multiple community-based partners as core partners selected due to their experience and expertise in environmental and energy justice work. Using a 'hub' approach, the core partners will act as 'core hubs', and the community-based 'hubs' will allow for service delivery to be more accessible to potential program participants, both geographically as well as culturally, due to their on-the-ground community presence. The community hubs include: (1) Centro De Apoyo Familiar (CAF) (DC Metro Hub); (2) South Baltimore Community Land Trust (SBCLT)(Baltimore area Hub); (3) Empower DC; (4) Overbrook Education Center (PA Hub); and (5) Sussex Health & Environmental Network (SHEN)/Sentinels of Eastern Shore Health (SESH)(Eastern Shore Hub for MD and DE). Morgan

State University (MSU) will act as the primary HBCU Hub and West Virginia State University (WVSU) will act as a hybrid community and HBCU Hub. In addition, thanks to additional funding, the TCTAC partners are in the process of identifying a Virginia partner organization and two additional community organizations encompassing Appalachia, Pittsburgh PA and West Virginia. From a bricks and mortar standpoint, this is effective as participants will have more local or regional places to receive services. From a cultural perspective, this is effective in that these organizations can draw upon their existing relationships and networks to be able to reach participants quickly, and they can also use the baseline information and services created and maintained by MATCH to distribute to participants, and further modify or tailor to the specific needs of communities in their service area.

NWF and the UMD's EFC and CEEJH will draw upon their unique institutional qualifications and experience to produce content for all the services that will be provided to participants. We will also oversee the MATCH operations and oversight. Operationally, NWF will be responsible for the grant management, the overall MATCH management, and act as the central hub for the suite of core and secondary partners. An Executive Committee will be established to lead all management activities. It will consist of the MATCH CoDirectors, and directors of each community and HBCU hub. The committee will monitor the allocation and use of MATCH resources to ensure appropriate and equitable distribution among all partners; lead the strategic planning process; and monitor and facilitate MATCH activities.

EPA REGION 4

Recipient: Research Triangle Institute (RTI)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: Resource for Assistance and Community Training – Region 4 (REACT4EJ)

Location: EPA Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, and 6 tribes)

Partners:

- North Carolina Central University (Academic/Minority-serving Institution [MSI])
- University of Memphis (Academic)
- University of South Carolina (Academic)
- University of Georgia (Academic)
- Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (Academic/MSI)
- Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University (Academic/MSI)
- University of Kentucky (Academic)
- Jackson State University (Academic/MSI)
- Environmental Protection Network (Non-profit)

Contact Information:

- Email and POCs:
 - James Harrington – jharrington@rit.org
 - Janelle Armstrong-Brown – jarmstrongbrown@rti.org
 - Karmann Riter - kriter@rti.org
- Website: www.react4ej.org

Intake Form:

- To request TA assistance, fill out the intake form by accessing the link below or call the toll free phone line at 866-309-4559: <https://www.react4ej.org/contact>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

REACT4EJ will establish a center for educating and capacity building in underserved communities that will be sustainable and readily adapted to the needs of participants well beyond the 5-year period of performance. REACT4EJ uses a co-creation approach for the design of activities that centers the needs and inputs of the communities and program participants. Through the collective experience of team members, REACT4EJ is following a comprehensive process that enables technical assistance to evolve in response to shifting landscapes and community needs, and to the results of an ongoing robust evaluation of outputs and outcomes through the project. The result will be a comprehensive training and technical assistance center that provides program participants access to a combination of locally focused materials on environmental and energy justice topics and programs and trainings with broad applicability. The project partners will provide vital in-person training and resources within their states,

with joint efforts and material development managed through the Coordinating Office at RTI. REACT4EJ brings existing connections with community-based organizations and state/local government agencies that will enable the network to provide services broadly across Region 4. The RTI team has a long history of providing TA in federal grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements. RTI will leverage extensive experience in coordinating TA centers, community outreach, and programs. Team members have community engagement and environmental and energy justice expertise, enabling REACT4EJ to provide tailored services to program participants. The primary community engagement strategy will be co-creation, which involves direct collaboration with program participants and partners to share input and insights and center community needs in service development. REACT4EJ is implementing an easy-to-use website that will feature shared network materials and events (<https://www.react4ej.org/events>) and that receives and tracks TA requests from participants. Additional development is planned that will make the REACT4EJ website a virtual hub for network operation and stakeholder communication. RTI will collaborate closely with the Deep South Center for EJ, another TCTAC serving EPA Regions 4 and 6.

As of March 2024, REACT4EJ attended over 20 public-facing events across the Southeast to disseminate information about the TCTAC program and delivered individualized technical assistance to at least 57 organizations, 42 of which are in underserved communities. The Network also produced several communication materials for external distribution on the TCTAC program and specific technical assistance topics. Additionally, the TCTAC established regular discussions with a wide network of other funding groups and technical assistance providers to leverage existing resources and efficiently deliver TA to participants in the region.

EPA REGIONS 4 & 6

Recipient: Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$13,000,000

Title: Community Investment Recovery Center (CIRC)

Location: EPA Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, and 6 tribes) and EPA Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX, and 66 tribal nations)

Partners:

- Alabama A & M University
- Bethune Cookman University
- Spelman College
- Dillard University
- Jackson State University
- North Carolina Central University
- South Carolina State University
- Tennessee State University
- Texas Southern University
- Xavier University,
- Clean, Healthy, Educated, Safe and Sustainable (CHESS)
- Unity in the Family Ministry (UFM)
- Education, Economics, Environmental, Climate, and Health Organization (EEECHO)
- East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission (ENONAC)
- Coalition of Community Organizations (COCO)
- U.S. Representative, 2nd District
- City of New Orleans Office of Hazard Mitigation
- Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
- New Orleans City Council District E
- Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice
- Alliance for Affordable Energy
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Environmental Protection Network
- Health Impacts of Degraded Environments
- Healthy Gulf
- Land Loss Prevention Project
- Ocean Conservancy
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA)

- Center for Earth Energy and Democracy
- People Organized in Defense of Earth and Her Resources (PODER)
- Louisiana General Missionary Baptist Convention
- Baptist Pastors Conference of New Orleans

Contact Information:

- Email: circ@dscej.org
- Website: www.dscej.org/circ

Intake Form:

- To request TA, complete the CIRC Capacity Assessment Form <https://dscej.tfaforms.net/61>. A team member will contact you.

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The DSCEJ and partners will establish the Community Investment and Recovery Center (CIRC) as a Technical Assistance Center to serve rural, remote, and underserved communities in each of the states located in Regions 4 and 6. The CIRC will build the capacity of 250 community-based organizations (CBOs) to apply for approximately \$50-100 million in grants from the EPA, DOE, and other sources over the 5-year performance period, and to manage those grants. To this end, the DSCEJ has designed the CIRC to provide direct services through six levels of capacity building and training that will: (1) build knowledge of environmental, health, climate, and energy issues of concern; (2) develop research skills to access, analyze, and present community-level data; and teach participants to (3) develop workplans to reach priority goals, build partnerships, and engage decisionmakers; and (4) access grant opportunities, and write, submit, and manage grants. The DSCEJ has a proven track record of helping environmental justice communities create sustainable change that spans more than 30 years, and a track record of successfully writing, winning, and managing federal grant awards spanning 25 years. The DSCEJ has in-place infrastructure for building the capacities of small, grassroots organizations; this work is currently ongoing in five states across the Southern US in Regions 4 and 6. Funding from this grant would support the DSCEJ to expand the breadth of our work to cover all states in Regions 4 and 6, and to offer direct services to at least 250 CBOs from underserved urban and rural/remote communities within these states. Additionally, the grant award would allow us to enhance and replicate DSCEJ's model in new states. In other words, establishing a Technical Assistance Center draws on DSCEJ's strengths as the longest-serving environmental justice resource center. In addition to providing direct technical assistance to communities across the southern United States, DSCEJ will also serve as the lead coordinator on the delivery of technical assistance across the South in collaboration with Research Triangle Institute (serving EPA Region 4 communities) and New Mexico State University (serving EPA Region 6 communities).

EPA REGION 5

Recipient: University of Minnesota

Applicant Type: Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: Great Lakes TCTAC

Location: EPA Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI, and 35 tribes)

Partners:

- University of Minnesota (Academic)
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Academic)
- Michigan State University (Academic)
- Purdue University (Academic)
- Ohio State University (Academic)
- Great Plains Institute (Non-Profit)
- Environmental Protection Network (Non-Profit)
- Community Engineering Corps (Non-Profit)
- Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (Non-Profit)
- University of Wisconsin-Madison (Academic)

Contact Information:

- Email and POC: Sara Rummel, Program Director - tctac@umn.edu
- Website: <https://greatlaketctac.umn.edu/>
- Newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/iw0HuY>

Intake Form:

- To request TA, fill out the intake form:
https://umn.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bPHPIA6WW1eog2q

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The mission of the Great Lakes Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (Great Lakes TCTAC) is to support community organizations successfully navigate funding opportunities to access the resources they need to lead in the clean energy transition, pollution clean-up, and green workforce development. We provide services to communities in the Great Lakes region—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin and the 35 federally recognized Tribal nations within the region.

To help communities make the most of this incredible moment, and leverage unprecedented state and federal funds to transform their communities for generations to come, the Great Lakes TCTAC provides the following services:

Information, Tools, and Trainings

To help community organizations learn about key funding opportunities, we will share timely information through our website and newsletter. We will provide in-depth information on specific grants, as well as tools, templates and trainings to support you through the application process from start to finish, whether it's helping to complete your Sam.gov registration, a checklist of required elements for the grant proposal, or workshops to walk through more complex parts of the process.

Grant Identification and Navigation

Applying for federal funding can be complex, starting with finding opportunities. Our grant navigator will help you identify opportunities that best address the needs of your community or project. Through specialized, one-on-one assistance, we will help you locate funding opportunities that best fit the environmental or energy needs you're addressing and plan your grant application process.

Project Development

To help with project design, we have a network of specialists who can assist with current information on specific energy or pollution clean technologies, and other relevant research, data, or resources. We can also support community organizations to develop persuasive funding proposals, and sometimes we can assist with finding matching funds and partners for consultation or collaboration.

Engineering Consultation & Analysis

Many environmental and energy infrastructure project proposals require engineering analysis to demonstrate project feasibility. Through our partner, the Community Engineering Corps, we can offer pro bono consultation at various points of the project design and proposal development stage, including preliminary engineering reports, feasibility studies, designs, and cost estimates.

GIS Mapping

We offer GIS mapping services to assist community organizations in both project design, and to strengthen their funding proposals by visualizing the geographic impact of their work.

Budget & Evaluation Planning Support

Developing a strong budget and realistic plan for project evaluation and reporting is a key component of an effective grant proposal. We can help you develop budgets, data management plans, evaluation and assessment plans, and other required forms.

Post-Award Grant Support

You got the grant? Congrats! If you need help post-award, our team can assist you in walking through a grant award letter, setting up grant reporting systems, deploying best practices for tracking grant metrics, and understanding other post-award forms.

The Great Lakes Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center is a multi-state effort to help rural, tribal, and underserved communities access federal funding for energy and environmental improvement efforts. Our network includes partners across the region who have long-standing partnerships and networks within the region, and have decades of experience providing technical assistance, and expertise in community development, renewable energy, tribal governments, community engagement, environmental justice, air and water pollution, natural resource management,

environmental remediation and restoration, and disaster resilience, among other environmental and energy issues.

EPA REGION 5

Recipient: Blacks in Green (BIG)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: BIG Justice TCTAC

Location: EPA Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI, and 35 tribes)

Partners:

- The Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA)
- Black Environmental Leaders (BEL)
- Environmental Health Watch (EHW)
- The School of Public Health
- University of Illinois
- Chicago The Smart Energy Design Center
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (SEDAC)

Contact Information

- Email and POC: Naomi Davis, TCTAC Director – naomidavis@blacksingreen.org
- Website: <https://www.blacksingreen.org/resources/big0justice-tctac>

Intake Form:

- To request TA, fill out the intake form by clicking on the link:
<https://www.blacksingreen.org/resources/big-justice-tctac>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

With a skilled network of specialized partners spread across the entire six-state-and-tribal geography of EPA Region V, this Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (EJ TCTAC) is uniquely situated to shape equity by providing assistance, training, and resources to program participants. Each operational partner has evolved through grassroots efforts, comprehensively integrating science, tradition, and culture. The consortium derives its power from the people. Located near the EPA Region 5 headquarters in Chicago, Illinois, BIG serves as the epicenter of the EJ TCTAC. Powerful partners ensure that this targeted, specialized program extends throughout the 35 tribal lands, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. This dedicated team ensures that each EJ TCTAC focus area outlined by EPA is carried out professionally, thoroughly, and continuously, incorporating real-time advances, arising challenges, and meaningful involvement of the communities. To help achieve equity, in alignment with Executive Order 13985, each involved organization envisions a technical assistance center that empowers communities to remediate social, economic, and health burdens by seeking environmental and energy justice. For maximum impact, services provided engage participants at every level of readiness to design solutions, obtain needed funding and resources, and

direct activities and resources toward their identified needs with emphasis on those disproportionately harmed.

To best ensure that all eligible services of EJ TCTAC objectives are provided throughout the entire geographic area, including remote and rural areas, 23 documented, supporting partners provide valuable assistance. To create a new chapter of hope, healing, and regeneration, the whole-system solution proposed by BIG and conveyed through this EJ TCTAC empowers individuals and communities to lessen barriers to healthy living and economic freedom. The EJ TCTAC will offer hybrid virtual and on-site services. The widespread network of partners will operate satellite offices to ensure physical and virtual services are accessible to remote and underserved communities. SEDAC will deploy a dedicated 1-800 call-center. BEL and MTERA will develop multilingual resources and continue to leverage existing Tribal networks across the region. Services include production of and instruction on how-to-produce physical, digital, and virtual resources that include storytelling, fact sheets, case studies, infographics, and best-practice tip sheets. To teach capacity building at both regional and local levels, the EJ TCTAC will facilitate stakeholder engagement discussions, listening sessions, and outreach with government and private sectors.

EPA REGION 6

Recipient: New Mexico State University (NMSU)

Applicant Type: Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: South Central Environmental Justice Resource Center (SCEJRC)

Location: EPA Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX, and 66 tribal nations)

Project Partners:

- NMSU (Academic-College of Engineering and Cooperative Extension Service)
- Beloved Community (Non-profit)
- UT Arlington-based Texas Manufacturing Extension Program (Academic, TMAC)
- LifeCity (Business/Industry)
- Santa Fe Green Chamber of Commerce (Non-Profit, SFGCC)
- Inter-Tribal Council of Louisiana (Non-Profit)
- Arkansas Capital Corporation (Business/Industry, ACC)
- Gulf States Renewable Energy Industry Association (Non-Profit, GSREIA)
- Together Louisiana (Non-Profit)
- G.A.A.P. Grant Writing Training (Non-Profit).

Contact Information:

- Email: scerc@nmsu.edu
- Phone Number: (575) 646-2913
- Website: <https://scejrc.nmsu.edu/>

Intake Form:

- To request TA, please email scejrc@nmsu.edu.

TCTAC Goal and Description:

NMSU plans to lead an experienced team of community-based partners to create the multi-faceted South Central Environmental Resource Center (SCERC). SCERC activities will focus on providing relevant outreach programming and resources within EPA Geographic Region 6 to enhance environmental and energy justice, with a focus on disinvested populations in underserved communities and those in rural and remote areas. Through community-based partnerships, SCERC will develop an Equitable Leadership Model designed to guide equitable engagement across two EJ impact sectors: (1) uplifting disinvested communities through leadership, peer learning, and outreach training to ensure relevant and active engagement in future environmental and energy policy development, and (2) empowering business leaders for equitable engagement through awareness of current assets and options, and emerging economic opportunities. SCERC will utilize traditional and innovative strategies to develop place-based resources guided by Participatory Action Research and will develop and deliver EJ outreach services that are geographically, demographically, culturally, and linguistically relevant, relatable, and responsive to community needs. SCERC will proactively foster a culture of collaboration and trust to forge shared

priorities and values at the local, state, and regional levels for strategic place-based impact with distinct intentionality. Outcomes will be assessed annually with programming adjusted as needed to ensure the targeted populations are benefiting from the respective services and resources. SCERC is collaborating with the Deep South Center for EJ, who are serving as the lead coordinator for EJ TCTAC services across the southern United States.

SCERC has developed a website that includes information of technical assistance resources within EPA Region 6 and provides contact information for technical assistance. SCERC has continued to build the support network across EPA Region 6 and has facilitated technical assistance requests with many entities.

EPA REGION 7

Recipient: Wichita State University (WSU)

Applicant Type: Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: Promoting the Heartland Environmental Justice Center (HEJC)

Location: EPA Region 7 (IA, KS, NE, MO, and 9 tribal nations)

Partners:

- Center for Rural Affairs (Non-Profit Service Provider)
- Climate and Energy Project (Non-Profit Service Provider)
- Community Engineering Corps (Non-Profit Service Provider)
- Environmental Protection Network (Non-Profit Service Provider)
- Iowa Environment Council (Non-Profit Service Provider)
- Kansas Rural Center (Non-Profit Service Provider)
- Kansas State University Engineering Extension (Academic)
- Metropolitan Congregations United (Faith-Based)

Contact Information:

- Email: heartlandej@whicita.edu
- Phone Number: 316-945-6615
- Website: www.heartlandej.org
- Facebook: <https://facebook.com/HeartlandEJ>

Intake Form:

- TA requests are received at <https://heartlandej.org/contact-us/>. Although this is the preferred method to capture details and initiate the intake process, communities or organizations requesting services may also contact the HEJC using the phone number or email address.

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The Heartland Environmental Justice Center supports individuals and organizations who serve in communities that are experiencing environmental injustice across Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and adjoining Indigenous Nations.

The Heartland EJ Center is a first-stop resource for communities seeking help with pressing environmental justice and energy equity challenges. We offer no cost, customized support to strengthen communities' ability to identify challenges, plan and implement solutions, and work towards achieving their community goals.

The Center seeks to listen and engage in ways that are tailored to the communities that we serve. We learn from communities about their burdens, barriers, priorities, and opportunities. Our team responds by working alongside communities to identify community needs, think strategically about planning, solutions, and funding, and link communities with appropriate resources.

Our support varies in scope and scale depending on community need. Most of our services can be categorized as custom support and training, such as:

- Light-touch guidance, like navigating communities to existing training resources;
- Medium-touch support, such as preparation for grant applications, facilitating a community needs assessment, or building a project budget;
- Intensive assistance, like policy analysis or technical and engineering expertise.

If environmental and energy initiatives are outside the scope of what the Heartland EJ Center can support, we can provide you with external resources and connect you with other organizations that may be able to help.

Every community and organization addressing environmental and energy equity challenges has unique and evolving needs. Our program managers, community program coordinators, and partners can support these needs by providing resources, training, and connections.

The Heartland Environmental Justice Center project team includes HEJC staff that focus on community engagement and providing direct services. We also work with a team of partners that outreach, targeted assistance, and technical expertise. This partner network includes:

- Center for Rural Affairs
- Climate + Energy Project
- Community Engineering Corps
- Environmental Protection Network
- Iowa Environmental Council
- Kansas Rural Center
- Kansas State University Engineering Extension (including the Kansas Energy Program, Kansas Radon Program, KSU TAB, and Pollution Prevention Institute)
- Metropolitan Congregations United.

The Heartland Environmental Justice Center is headquartered at the Wichita State University Environmental Finance Center, a community research center focused on helping address the “how to pay” questions of environmental protection and infrastructure.

For more information, visit our webpage and follow us on Facebook.

EPA REGION 8

The Region 8 TCTAC is not yet awarded and is going through workplan negotiations. Information will be shared once the award is finalized.

EPA REGION 9



Recipient: University of Arizona

Applicant Type: Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

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

Location: EPA Region 9 (AZ, NV, CA, HI, 148 tribes and the US Affiliated Pacific Islands)

Partners:

- Sonoran Environmental Research Institute (SERI) (AZ Non-Profit)
- Public Health Institute (PHI) (CA Non-Profit)
- University of Southern California (USC) (CA Academic)
- Larson Institute for Health Impact and Equity (NV Academic)
- Hawaii Public Health Institute (HIPHI) (HI Non-Profit)

Contact Information:

- Email: westej-center@arizona.edu
- Phone: (877) 518-4634 – Toll Free
- English Website: <https://westejcenter.arizona.edu/>
- Spanish Website: <https://westejcenter.arizona.edu/es>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WESTEJCenter/>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/i/flow/login?redirect_after_login=%2FWESTEJCenter
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/westejcenter/>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/westejcenter>
- Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@WESTEJCenter>
- Listserv: sign-up [here](#)

For language interpretation or translation information and services, please e-mail or call.

Intake Form:

- To request TA, fill out the intake form found at these links ([English](#) | [Spanish](#)), email or call the center.

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The WEST EJ Center is one of 16 centers in the EPA's Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (EJ TCTAC) Program and was established to serve EPA Region 9. The Center is powered by a network of collaborative coalition of academic and community-based partners with extensive networks with state and local government agencies, Tribal nations, Area Health Education Centers (AHECs), state offices of rural health, primary care associations and other community-based organizations across the region. Center activities are coordinated by the University of Arizona and the Sonora Environmental Research Institute in collaboration with Public Health Institute, Hawai'i Public Health Institute, the Larson Institute at University of Nevada, Reno and University of Southern California.

The mission of the Center is to work as authentic partners with communities towards environmental and energy justice (EEJ) by being a one-stop shop for hands-on technical assistance, multi-faceted training, and other eligible forms of assistance, resources, and support to program participants.

The Center will help in three main ways:

- 1) providing hands-on help and training for grant applications and management, including a funding database;
- 2) build community capacity for environmental and energy decision-making involvement through community resource fairs, student internships, and Community Champion cohorts; and
- 3) providing access to environmental and energy expertise in the form on hands-on research design and statistical and GIS consultation and identifying energy justice funding opportunities.

All Center services are 100% free to eligible individuals, organizations or groups located in CA, AZ, NV, HI, and the US Affiliated Pacific Islands.

EPA REGION 9

Recipient: San Diego State University Foundation (SDSU)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit / Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: EPA Region 9 TCTAC: SDSU's Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice

Location: EPA Region 9 (AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU, NMI and 148 Federally Recognized Tribes)

Partners:

- SDSU Community Climate Action Network (Academic)
- Environmental Protection Network (Industry)
- Center for Creative Land Recycling (Non-Profit)
- University of San Diego's Energy Policy Initiatives Center (Academic)
- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (Tribal)
- Desert Research Institute (Non-Profit)
- Climate Science Alliance (Non-Profit Education)
- Pacific RISA (Research)
- University of Guam's Center of Island Sustainability (Academic)
- Public Health Alliance (Non-Profit)
- Arizona State University (Academic).

Contact Information

- Email: cceej@sdsu.edu
- Phone: (619) 594-8287
- Website: <https://cceej.sdsu.edu/>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sdsucceej/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/people/SDSU-Center-for-Community-Energy-and-Environmental-Justice/100095130128145/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cceej.sdsu/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3Kg1mdOYw6p3GbwqR7E0dQ>

Intake Form:

- To request technical assistance, you may fill out the CCEEJ technical assistance form using the link below, send an email, or call us. The center will contact the requestor with a link to schedule an intake conversation with their program experts:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdT3c-Th2OkXDTVZt3bNsHDdi4lmFfVQZDbnAwNWX9RQ0d6HA/viewform>

Additional Information:

- FAQs: <https://cceej.sdsu.edu/faqs>

- Calendar of Events: <https://cceej.sdsu.edu/calendar>
- List of Eligible Services: <https://cceej.sdsu.edu/whatwedo>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The purpose of SDSU's TCTAC for EPA Region 9 - The Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice (CCEEJ) - is to empower communities in EPA's Region 9 by strengthening community organizations' capacity and effectiveness in applying to, managing, and implementing environmental and energy justice grants and programs. SDSU TCTAC's mission is to leverage and strengthen community assets by creating an accessible in-person and virtual community that builds capacity and provides technical assistance in energy and environmental justice centered around four unifying objectives: 1) Outreach and partnership building, 2) Development of resources, 3) Transfer of knowledge and building community capacity, 4) Evaluation, adaptation, and innovation. CCEEJ is committed to helping community organizations by providing technical assistance that includes conducting environmental and energy justice needs assessment and analyses, facilitating navigation of government systems, identifying grant opportunities, increasing grant getting and administration capacity, supporting decision-making participation, and training community champions.

Using a hub and spoke model, SDSU TCTAC will create a nexus of centralized expertise and coordination for each critical service for Region 9, which connects eligible organizations with established partners in each state/territory to coordinate, deliver, and monitor uptake of key services while tracking the outcomes and outputs from the communities we serve. The hub of the TCTAC will be based in a physical and virtual center at SDSU called the Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice. Hub partners will work to coordinate activities in their area(s) of expertise across all of Region 9 and facilitate co-production, co-development, sharing, transfer, and delivery of both process and content among Spoke partners and community partners. Spoke partners lead on delivering services (in person and virtually) to community organizations, building and expanding on their existing eligible community organizations in their network and identifying and connecting with new community organizations, supporting community engagement and capacity building. Our activities will focus specifically on underserved, rural, remote, tribal, indigenous, and native communities. The San Diego State University Foundation will collaborate closely with the University of Arizona, which has also been selected to receive an EJ TCTAC award to communities in EPA Region 9.

EPA REGION 10

Recipient: Willamette Partnership

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: Northwestern Environmental Justice Center (NWEJC)

Location: EPA Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA, and 271 native tribes)

Partners:

- Portland State University (Academic)
- Rural Community Assistance Corporation (Non-Profit)
- Alai Community Consulting (Business)
- Oregon Public Health Institute (Non-Profit)
- Verde (Non-Profit)
- Boise State University (Academic)
- Kearns and West (Private)
- Community Engineering Corps (Non-Profit)

Contact Information:

- Email: connect@nwejc.org
- Phone: (971) 341-3859
- Website: <https://nwejc.org/>

Intake Form:

- To request technical assistance, interested parties may use the intake form found in the link below, email or call:
<https://form.asana.com/?d=41078736839689&embed=true&k=leZ6q74k2dgp6JGUzWM1zA>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The Northwest Environmental Justice Center (NWEJC) team believes that centering values of self-determination, equity, intergenerational Indigenous cultural and ceremonial practices, traditional ecological knowledge, natural resource security, stewardship, resilience, education, and community connection¹ provide a platform from which communities can heal, build power, and emerge toward futures in which everyone and mother earth thrives—no exceptions. The NWEJC will focus on underserved communities and where environmental, health, and economic burdens and capacity constraints co-occur—including Tribal and Indigenous communities, Black, Latinx, immigrant, and disabilities communities, especially in remote and rural areas. Willamette Partnership (WP) and Portland State University's (PSU) Institute for Tribal Government (ITG) will co- manage the NWEJC with a broad diversity of partners to serve Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. We have built a vision for a community-driven Center from our lived and shared experiences. This vision includes extensive

community engagement that uplifts the EJ priorities defined by impacted communities. The NWEJC priorities and services will be shaped by a Community Leadership Assembly composed of TCTAC participants and partners. Through the Assembly's guidance and the TCTAC's services (community engagement, cohort learning and capacity building, technical assistance, and storytelling), we anticipate the following outputs each year:

- 80 community engagement actions, including community meeting facilitations, translation/interpretation activities,
- 1:1 conversations, and other actions that over five years reach a significant number of EJ communities (e.g., nearly all of the federally recognized tribes in ID, OR, and WA, at least 50% of the tribes in AK, and immigrant communities from Mesoamerica, East Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Asia, and people with disabilities),
- 60 direct technical assistance projects (55 in year 1) that range from light-touch navigating of existing resources, to medium-touch preparation for receiving federal funds or updating community needs assessments, to more intensive supports for construction projects or policy analysis,
- Cohort-style learning and leadership development for 80 community leaders and members in data justice, navigating public and private funding, just energy transitions, engaging and influencing policy, environmental justice leadership institute, and five students supporting the TCTAC, and
- Storytelling and accountability including a quarterly newsletter, biannual case study/video shorts of success, data visualization tools of EJ priorities, monthly social media, and an annual sharing of feedback, stories, lessons, and actions in addition to the EPA/DOE required reporting.

Willamette Partnership will collaborate closely with the University of Washington, an EJ TCTAC award to support EPA Region 10 communities.

EPA REGION 10

Recipient: University of Washington (UW)

Applicant Type: Institution of Higher Education

Award Amount: \$12,000,000

Title: Center for Environmental Health Equity

Location: EPA Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA, and 271 native tribes)

Partners:

- Clean Energy Institute
- Center for Exposures, Diseases, Genomics, and Environment
- Industrial Assessment Center – University of Washington
- Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- NW Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit
- Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (Academic)
- Partnerships with tribal and community-based organizations as technical assistance providers

Contact Information:

- Email: cehe@uw.edu
- Phone: (206) 543-0608
- Website: <https://deohs.washington.edu/cehe/>

Intake Form

- To request TA, fill out the intake form found in the link below, email or call the center:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2UrUODJDJUIPLnpOqTM90THAKU8akLfUEmNtAoEBEGzFUgg/viewform>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The mission of the UW Center for Environmental Health Equity is to provide technical assistance to tribal and community organizations in EPA Region 10 states (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) to strengthen their capacity and effectiveness in applying to and successfully managing environmental and energy justice (EEJ) grants and programs.

The center's activities include online/in-person outreach and engagement with regional participants, establishment of funded partnerships to foster Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community leadership, hosting of workshops and trainings, and consultations with center-affiliated faculty and students. The center provides program participants with assistance in (1) conducting environmental justice analyses and needs assessments, (2) identifying, applying for, and managing EEJ grants and programs, (3) facilitating meaningful engagement with other EEJ stakeholders and decision-makers, (4) building capacity to strengthen and focus their work on EEJ issues, and (5) fostering community leadership in EEJ solutions. The center aims to increase program participants' capacity and

effectiveness in applying for environmental/energy justice opportunities, increase participation in defining technical service needs and offerings for the region, and successful development, implementation, and continuation of environmental and energy justice programs. CEHE will continue to grow and expand its network of EJ TCTAC partners throughout the five-year project period. University of Washington collaborates closely with the Northwest Environmental Justice Center, which also provides technical assistance to EPA Region 10 communities.

NATIONAL EJ TCTAC AWARD

Recipient: International City/County Management Association (ICMA)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THRIVING COMMUNITIES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (NATIONAL EJ TC TAC)

Location: EPA Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY, and 28 Tribal Nations) and the National Geographic Area

Partners:

- Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (Academic, Tribal)
- National League of Cities (Elected Officials, Local Government)
- National Forum for Black Public Administrators (Local Government)
- Urban Sustainability Directors Network (Local Government, Community Organizations)

Contact Information:

- Email: tctac@icma.org
- Phone: 1-855-EJTCTAC
- Website: <http://tctac.icma.org>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The role of the National EJ TCTACs in the EJ TCTAC network is two-fold: 1) to provide direct technical assistance and services to communities where there may be gaps in coverage and 2) to identify community-focused resources available nationwide (at the federal, state, local, and private levels) and develop tools, databases, and clearinghouses connecting program participants to those resources.

As a National EJ TCTAC, the ICMA Team plans to focus on local and tribal government stakeholders and the community organizations with which they frequently partner. The objectives are to create meaningful programs, products, and services to substantially elevate the capacity of small, rural, and traditionally under resourced communities during this transformative period of federal investment to right the wrongs of the past. The proposed approach includes leveraging the substantial training/education, outreach, technical assistance, content, and peer-to-peer capabilities and capacities. This will include in-person and virtual technical assistance-based training on environmental and energy justice topics including grant funding, community collaboration, and other related challenges and issues as identified by the national and regional TCTACs. This strategy will leverage the power of ICMA and sub-awardees' membership bases, and other professional networks, to provide peer-to-peer technical assistance advisory services, one-to-one coaching, and on-the-ground and virtual support. Additionally, ICMA and the other national TCTACs will help convene the regional providers to provide a space to share strategies, receive trainings, and identify gaps. Finally, a key strategy will be to seek out additional

federal, philanthropic, and other resources to amplify EPA's investment and as part of a longer-term sustainability strategy that goes beyond the period of anticipated federal funding.

The 2022-23 EJ TCTAC competition was the first offering of this program; despite the robust response of 70 applications, there was an expectation that there may be some gaps in coverage at the onset. Since there was not a robust response of applications to serve as an EJ TCTAC serving EPA Region 8 communities, the three National EJ TCTACs will collaborate to take on the initial role of serving EPA Region 8 communities, with ICMA leading that effort until the Region 8 provider is identified. Because of the higher proportion of local city and county management organizations in EPA Region 8, ICMA is well positioned to provide direct technical assistance and support to these organizations throughout the region.

NATIONAL EJ TCTAC AWARD

Recipient: Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC)

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (EJ TCTAC)

Location: Nationwide

Partners:

- Atma Connect (Atma) (Non-Profit Technology Organization)
- American Society for Adaptation Professionals (ASAP) (Non-Profit Association)

Contact Information:

- Emails and POCs:
 - Rachele Sanderson – rsanderson@sustain.org
 - Russell Paez, TCTAC Project Manager – rpaez@sustain.org

TCTAC Goals and Description:

The ISC team's experience and expertise offer the national EJ TCTAC network a robust national coordination mechanism that will build capacity, reduce duplication, and use complementary services to support all levels of the EJ TCTAC Program. Using our networks, including ISC's National Climate Leaders of Color Network and ASAP's members, we will establish a National EJ TCTAC that will build the capacity of regional TCTACs, local leaders, communities, and TA providers through needs-based, virtual, and in person support and coordinated activities, tools, and resources. A key component of the National TCTAC will be ensuring the measurable success of the regional centers. When regional needs emerge, our team will provide direct services to program participants and communities. In coordination with the EPA, Department of Energy (DOE), and regional center teams, we will quickly mobilize a national center with flexible, three-pronged services that can adapt to diverse needs through 1) tailored support to regional TCTACs via peer learning, tools, and information sharing; 2) support to underserved communities using ISC's community engagement expertise; and 3) the development of an online National EJ TCTAC Platform for interactive communication, networking, collaboration, and greater funding access.

Using the National Platform website, social media, direct contact, and other outreach, we will connect program participants, TA providers, potential partners, the regional TCTACs, and other stakeholders to each other and funding opportunities. The online Platform's multiple functions will include integrated feedback mechanisms, interactive two-way communication, and a means to communicate with our project team. The Platform will be fully customizable to serve the needs of EPA, regional TCTACs, and program participants and will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. At a minimum, the Platform will include multiple interfaces, including 1) password-protected logins for program participant profiles; 2) a space for regional TCTAC staff, partners, and TA providers; and 3) space for interactive, two-

way conversation and chat options between participants, regional centers, and/or other stakeholders. The profiles will be used to promote volunteer and contracted TA services as well as to strengthen networks of leaders and role model champions. We will complement these with webinars and materials on partnership and coalition building. The Platform will also house an attractive, easy-to-use, and searchable Environmental and Energy Justice Library to share with regional. By the end of Year 1, the ISC team plans to launch the online Platform. By Years 2 and 3, our team will provide iterative TA, partnership facilitation, capacity building, financing facilitation, and other services to the regional TCTACs and program participants. By the project's end, these and other activities will have positioned program participants—particularly underserved and rural and remote communities— to successfully access grant opportunities and to participate and engage in environmental and energy justice decision-making, creating tangible impact for their communities.

NATIONAL EJ TCTAC AWARD

Recipient: National Indian Health Board

Applicant Type: Not for Profit

Award Amount: \$10,000,000

Title: National Indian Health Board Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center

Location: Tribal Communities Nationwide

Project Partners:

As the voice for Tribal health at the national level, NIHB expects to continue and deepen its partnerships throughout this project serving the 574 federally recognized Tribes. NIHB works closely with each of the eleven AIHBs across the country, the Tribal Epidemiology Centers (TECs), and Tribal governments. NIHB has partnered with other organizations such as:

- ecoAmerica
- National Tribal Air Association
- the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
- Tribal Colleges/Universities (TCUs) and other minority-serving educational institutions.

Contact Information:

- Email: environmentalhealth@nihb.org
- Phone Number: (202) 507-4086
- Website: <https://www.nihb.org/environmental-health/tribal-tac.php>

TCTAC Goals and Description:

Indigenous peoples have known for millennia that the health of a person and the community is tied to the health of the environment. Tribal communities are some of the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and some of the most environmentally exploited. In the corrective effort to realize environmental and energy justice and to achieve the goals of the Justice40 Initiative, the federal government must ensure Indian Country has sustained access to tools and resources to tackle these issues in the way that works best for Tribes. In short, Tribes need a Technical Assistance Center devoted to Indian Country. NIHB, as the national voice for Tribal health, is the natural entity to serve as this one-stop shop for Tribes. The EJ TCTAC will allow NIHB to provide services related to environmental and energy justice at the Tribal level. Like all NIHB projects, the EJ TCTAC will cover the national geographic area and serve Tribes throughout the United States. NIHB will leverage the 2018-2019 environmental health discussion sessions and the 2021- 2022 Regional Environmental Health Summits hosted by NIHB and supported by CDC to address environmental justice concerns in Indian Country, such as the impacts of climate change; external pollutants in the air, land, and water; Superfund sites; and the transition to clean energy sources.

NIHB will stand up the Tribal TCTAC as a one-stop shop for Tribal Nations looking for support in the environmental and energy justice spaces. NIHB will leverage our existing framework of outreach to increase the number of Tribes applying for and receiving funding from federal and non-federal partners on environmental and energy justice projects. NIHB will provide grant writing courses, grant application

explainers, targeted application assistance, and project evaluation design trainings throughout Indian Country over the course of this project. NIHB's EJ TC TAC will provide technical assistance on funding opportunities, including applications involving a cohort or partnership with Tribes, municipal partners, and state governments. NIHB will develop a clearinghouse of state-based grants for which Tribes are eligible and provide technical assistance in the application process. With EPA and DOE's coordination, the Tribal TCTAC will also work with regional TCTACs to ensure consistency, cultural competency, and the highest level of service possible to Tribal Nations. NIHB plans to increase the workforce of environmental professionals in Indian Country, and is launching the Tribal Environmental Impact Network, a network of tribal environmental professionals to provide peer technical assistance in specific subject matter areas.