



# MCE

Community Partnership Program  
Community Benefit Funds

September 25, 2025



# Community Partnership Program



# Program Overview

- \$100,000 total
- Up to six contracts awarded, up to \$30,000 each
- Scored by at least three MCE team members
  - Completeness of application (30%)
  - Impact on MCE Customers (25%)
  - Equity Focus (20%)
  - Estimated Number of Communities Served (20%)
  - Creativity (5%)
- Outreach efforts that support MCE's mission through education or adoption of MCE's programs and services
- 2025 focus areas: local contractor education, low-income and underserved communities, building electrification

# Requirements

- Introduction/Cover sheet
- Proposed workplan, timeline, and budget per the template included in the RFP
- Information and resources required from MCE
- Statement of Qualification
- Three references
- Proposals no more than 5 pages in length
- For nonprofits, a 501(c)(3) letter or fiscal sponsor materials
- Will use MCE's standard contract which is included in the RFP
- Monthly reporting, meetings, and invoices required

# 2024 Partners

- Partners with equity focuses scored higher
- More detailed proposals scored higher
- Target audiences that are hard to reach scored higher

Canal Alliance  
\$30,000

- General outreach
- Underserved community

North Marin  
Community  
Services

\$30,000

- General outreach
- Spanish language

San Pablo  
Economic  
Development  
Corporation

\$12,500

- Small Business Energy Advantage
- Multifamily energy services

Vallejo Main  
Street

\$10,000

- Small Business Energy Advantage

Solano Economic  
Development  
Corporation

\$10,000

- General education

City of Pinole

\$7,500

- General education

# 2024 Questions

- Are cities eligible to apply? **Yes**
- Is the workplan, timeline, and budget, one document? **Yes**
- Would a local proposal be considered over a County or service-area wide campaign? **Yes**
- Is there a list of eligible/ineligible costs? **No**
- Are we allowed to submit multiple applications for distinctly different projects? **Yes**
- Is it acceptable to add/augment the MCE-provided template? **Yes**
- What is the maximum proposal length? **5 pages but supplemental documents can provide additional length**





# Community Benefit Funds



# Program Overview

- \$171,400 in available funds
- There is not currently a limit on how much can be requested or awarded per partner
- We do not have a set number of partners we are willing to work with
- Objectives:
  - Supporting low-income and traditionally disadvantaged and underserved communities
  - Boosting workforce development in the clean energy sector
  - Improving community resilience and sustainability
  - Enhancing local fossil-free energy generation
  - Promoting energy efficiency
- Full list of guidelines included in the RFP
- Contracts will likely be as MOUs with at least one report required for how the funds were spent



# Guidelines

- **Energy Equity:** Projects that address unequal access to clean and efficient energy technologies, including those that support the diverse needs of historically underserved communities.
- **Workforce Development:** Training programs, pre-apprenticeships, and educational partnerships to build a skilled local workforce in the renewable energy, energy efficiency, and/or electrification sector.
- **Fossil-Free Energy:** Small-scale solar, storage, or other distributed energy resource (DER) projects that benefit the community.
- **Energy Efficiency and Load Shifting:** Initiatives that help residents and businesses reduce their energy consumption, energy costs, and shift energy use out of peak times.
- **Community Resilience:** Projects that enhance the ability of communities to withstand and recover from power outages, including supporting critical facilities for emergency preparedness.
- **Local Infrastructure Improvements:** Enhancements to local infrastructure to support sustainable development.
- **Education:** Initiatives that support youth and community education, especially in relation to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and environmental justice.

# Evaluation Criteria

- **Environmental Impact (20%):** Prioritize projects that contribute to local environmental sustainability, such as reducing carbon emissions, improving air quality, or enhancing local biodiversity.
- **Community Feedback (20%):** Seek investments that align with feedback from local stakeholders around specific community priorities, needs, and expectations.
- **Socioeconomic Benefits (20%):** Prioritize projects that provide solutions for specific economic or health challenges, particularly for lower-income and disadvantaged communities.
- **Leverage and Partnership (20%):** Prioritize opportunities to leverage additional funding or form partnerships with local organizations, governments, or businesses to maximize impact.
- **Feasibility and Readiness (20%):** Prioritize projects that are ready for implementation and can demonstrate feasibility and a clear plan for achieving outcomes





**Next Steps**

# Timeline

- **Deadline for Questions:** 4pm PDT on Tuesday, September 30, 2025
- **Deadline for Responses:** Monday, October 6, 2025
- **Submission Deadline:** 5pm PDT on Friday, October 17, 2025
- Solicitation expected to be closed before the end of 2025
- **Please block out time the week of November 10<sup>th</sup> for potential interviews**



# Final Questions

- Can I submit for both the Community Partnership Program and Community Benefit Funds? **Yes**
- Where can I submit questions? [contracts@mceCleanEnergy.org](mailto:contracts@mceCleanEnergy.org)
- Will you let folks know if they weren't selected? **Yes**
- If we aren't selected, will we have an opportunity to receive feedback on why? **Yes**
- What is the contract length? **Jan 1, 2026 - Dec 31, 2026**

# Thank you!



[mceCleanEnergy.org](https://mceCleanEnergy.org)  
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