



EJ/CJ FUND TO BRING FEDERAL FUNDING TO NYC NEIGHBORHOODS





Environmental Protection Network

Kathy Pope, Development Director & Community Outreach Manager

Michelle Roos, Executive Director

About Us



- Founded in January 2017
- Approximately 600 EPA alumni across the country
- Unique perspective of former regulators with decades of historical knowledge & subject matter expertise



Our Goals and Objectives



- Build the capacity of environmental agencies and the communities they serve to address the most urgent health and environmental crises via
 - national policy advocacy
 - pro bono technical assistance
 - recruiting and retaining greater diversity of EPA staff



Unprecedented Climate & Energy \$



- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- Inflation Reduction Act
- Hundreds of billions of dollars
- Justice40 Initiative
 - 40% of climate and energy investments to benefit disadvantaged communities

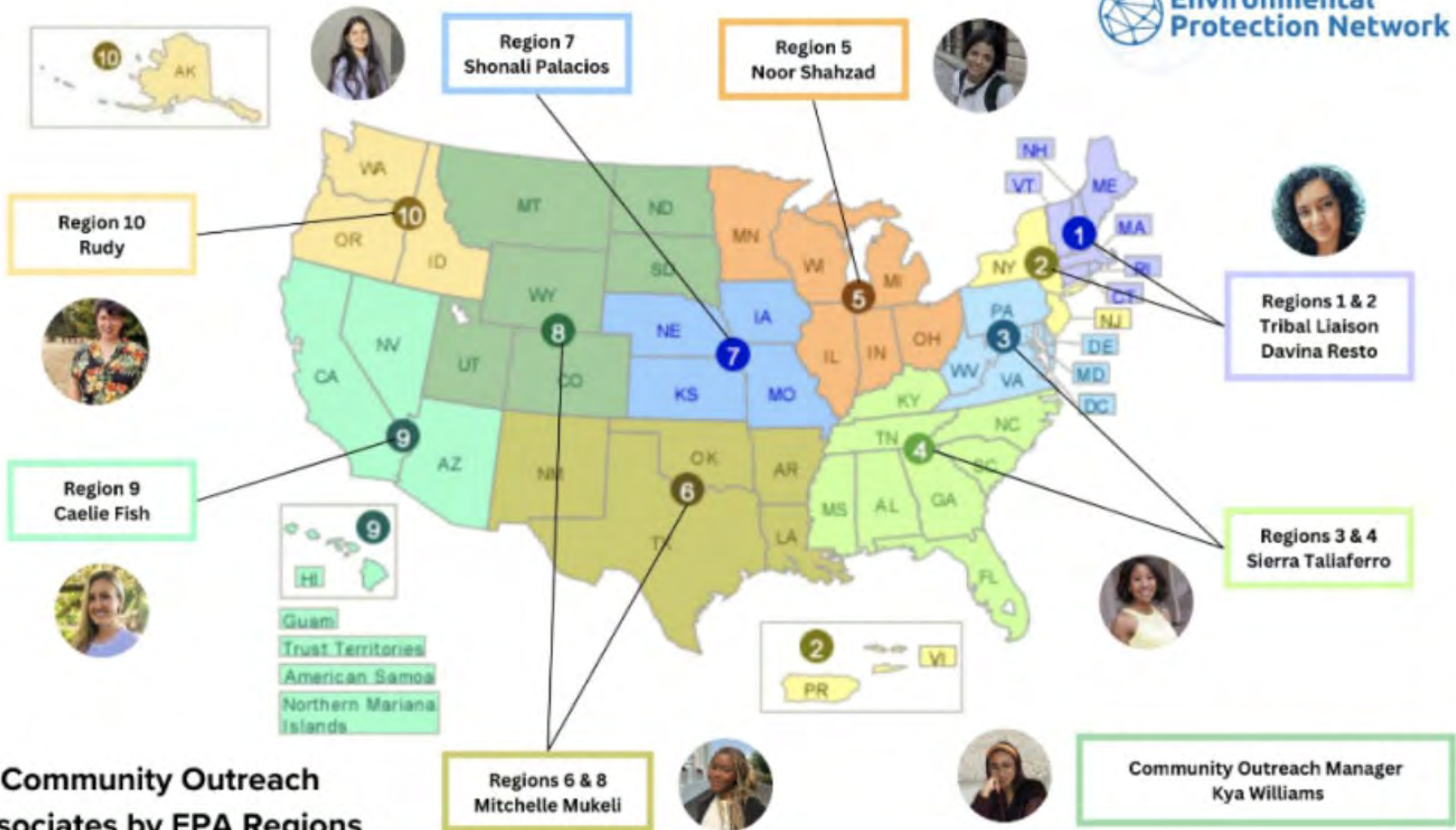


Pro Bono Technical Assistance



- Connect former engineers, scientists, lawyers
- Frontline communities; NGOs; and State, local, and Tribal agencies
- Navigate bureaucracy, regulations, funding
- Achieve tangible public health benefits





Progress to Date



- 150+ unique volunteers
- 600+ requests for TA
- Helped groups access \$7.5M+
- Assisted 100+ groups apply
- Also a part of the EJ Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)



Assistance getting federal funding



- Navigate and [circulate funding opportunities](#)
- Create [step-by-step guides](#) for specific applications
- Host [SAM.gov & Grants.gov office hours](#) every 2 weeks
- Identify partners
- Make connections
- Beginning to help with grant management and reporting



Funding to Explore Right Now (details on our [website](#))



- [EPA EJ Community Change Grants](#) (\$2 billion)
- [EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants](#) (\$4.6 billion)
- FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities*
- EPA Clean School Bus USA 2023 Rebate Program (\$500 million)



* (\$1 billion)

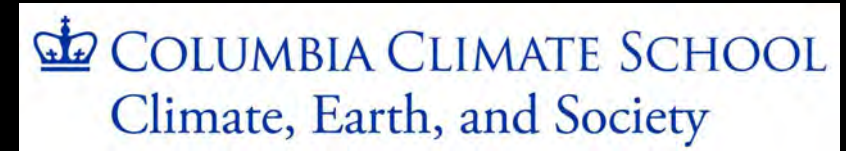
Questions? Or looking for TA?



or email info@environmentalprotectionnetwork.org
202-656-6229

WE ACT TCTAC EPA Region 2: NY & NJ

*Change Capital Fund
EJ/CJ Fund to Bring
Federal Funding to NYC
Neighborhoods*



Jordana Vanderselt (she/her), TCTAC Director of Operations
WE ACT for Environmental Justice
December 12, 2023



Background: EPA EJ Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC) Program



- The Justice40 Initiative, launched by Executive Order in 2021, mandates that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to communities that have been marginalized, underserved and overburdened by pollution and climate change.
- It impacts the direction of tens of billions of dollars in funds from legislation including the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
- The TCTAC program was launched by EPA, in conjunction with the Department of Energy, to ensure that environmental justice communities receive the technical assistance they need to benefit from the funding directed by the Justice40 Initiative.
- There are currently 16 TCTACs: 3 national TCTACs, and 13 regional TCTACs (RFPs were reissued for Regions 1 and 8).

WE ACT's Region 2 TCTAC Details



Grant period: 5 years, 2023-2028

Region: EPA Region 2 includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. WE ACT's TCTAC has been assigned to serve New York, New Jersey, & 8 tribal nations.

WE ACT TCTAC staff:

- Co-Directors: Jordana Vanderselt (Director of Operations) & Sarah Salem (Director of Community Engagement)
- Federal Grants Specialist: Sherrine Cox

Format for technical assistance:

- Curriculum of trainings
- On-demand technical assistance, including referrals
- Resource library
- In-person annual convenings

WE ACT's Region 2 TCTAC Details



Who we can serve:

- Nonprofit organizations
- Community-based and grassroots organizations
- Philanthropic and civic organizations
- Underserved communities and organizations
- Rural and Remote communities and organizations
- Faith-based organizations and churches
- Educational institutions (e.g., schools, colleges, and universities), including Minority Serving Institutions
- Individuals of underserved communities
- Disadvantaged Businesses
- Local, tribal, and state governmental units
- US Territories
- Utility providers
- Health care providers and clinics

Steering Committee



WE ACT for Environmental Justice
Peggy Shepard (Executive Director)



New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance
Melissa Miles (Executive Director)



South Ward Environmental Alliance
Kim Gaddy (Executive Director)



New York University School of Law Institute for Policy Integrity
Al Huang (Environmental Justice Director) & Burcin Unel (Executive Director)



Columbia University Climate School
Sheila Foster (Visiting Professor)



Environmental Protection Network
Michelle Roos (Executive Director)



Clean Energy Group
Abbe Ramanan (Project Director)



Inter American University of Puerto Rico
Yogani Govender (Dean of Science and Technology)

Primary Technical Assistance Areas

Navigating and Applying to Grants

- Focused on federal grants, with assistance ranging from portal registration, identifying and understanding RFPs, developing project concepts, and developing strong proposals
- We'll also develop additional trainings and provide technical assistance on private philanthropy and individual fundraising

Building Partnerships and Engaging with Decision Makers



Connecting EJ Groups with Academic Partners



Introductory Training in Environmental Justice (using EHJLT modules)



EJ Policy and Regulatory Analysis



Energy Justice and Energy Projects



EJ Needs Assessments



Grants Management



Training Opportunities

December 5

(recording and slides posted)

December 20

January 3, 17, 31

January 22

February 28

Community Solar Models & Resources
Clean Energy Group

SAM.gov Office Hours
Environmental Protection Network

Introduction to Justice40 & the CEJST Tool
Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU Law School

Environmental Justice & Community Organizing 101
South Ward Environmental Alliance

Federal Funding Opportunities

EPA: Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program



Total Funding

\$2 billion - single largest investment in environmental justice going directly to communities in history

Open Now until Nov 21, 2024

March 2024: initial award selections

May/June 2024: anticipated start for initial selections



Track I

- \$10-20 million each, 150 awards
- Community-driven investments for change
- Maximum 3 years

Track II

- \$1-3 million, 20 awards
- Meaningful engagement for equitable governance
- Maximum 3 years

Who can apply?

A partnership between at least two community-based non-profit organizations (CBOs).


A partnership between a CBO and one or any combination of the following:

- 1) Federally-Recognized Tribe
- 2) Local Government
- 3) Institution of Higher Education

More details can be found [here](#)


Federal Funding Opportunities

EPA: Community Change Grants **Eligible Activities**



Climate

Climate resiliency and adaptation




Air Quality

Community-led air and other (including water & waste) pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation



Green Jobs

Workforce development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions & other air pollutants




Community Engagement

Facilitating the engagement of disadvantaged communities in State and Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, and other public processes




Heat

Mitigating climate & health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events



Technology

Investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure



Indoor Air

Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution

Federal Funding Opportunities

EPA: Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program



In 2024, one organization in each EPA Region will be awarded as a Grantmaker and act as a pass-through entity to further award at least \$40 million in EJ Thriving Communities Subgrants.

More details can be found [here](#)



EJ Thriving Communities Subgrants will be available for three distinct phases of community-readiness:

- Phase I: Assessment projects for up to \$150,000 for a 1 year project period
- Phase II: Planning projects for up to \$250,000 for a 1-2 year project period
- Phase III: Project Development projects for up to \$350,000 for a 2 year project period.

Federal Funding Opportunities

EPA: Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program *Eligible Activities*

Monitoring of effluent discharges from industrial facilities

Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled

Illegal dumping activities, such as education, outreach, & small-scale clean-ups

Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases & other air pollutants

Fenceline air quality monitoring

Small cleanup projects

Pesticides & other toxic substances

Air quality & asthma

Environmental justice training for youth

Lead & asbestos contamination

Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient & not subject to indoor air pollution

Water quality & sampling

Stormwater issues & green infrastructure

Emergency preparedness & disaster resiliency

Federal Funding Opportunities

US Department of Health & Human Services: Environmental Justice Community Innovator Challenge



HHS announced the launch of a nation-wide [Environmental Justice Community Innovator Challenge](#) to support disadvantaged communities and Tribes facing the brunt of environmental injustices, including health harms due to climate change. This Challenge aims to uplift community-level solutions to address health inequities with prizes totaling \$1,000,000 that will be awarded in two phases.

Phase 1: open now until January 30, 2024

Phase 2: opens on February 28, 2024



Phase 1: 1) design of an innovative concept to enhance community-driven efforts to mitigate environmental health disparities and advance environmental health equity within a specific population; or 2) development of an effective approach (pilot project) to support a previously developed innovative concept.

- Up to 12 submissions may be selected to each receive a prize of up to \$25,000

Phase 2: Participants selected to receive a Phase 1 prize may enter phase 2 to test dissemination and uptake of their approaches at a small scale/community level. Additionally, separate participant entries (not submitted in Phase 1) will be accepted for small scale testing or implementation projects.

- Up to 10 submissions may be selected to each receive a minimum prize of \$70,000

How to Connect with the TCTAC



- People interested in receiving assistance from the TCTAC can reach out to ejtctac@weact.org
- Our TCTAC website is: weact.org/tctac. On the site you can access a brief intake form to request technical assistance.
- Scan this QR code to sign up for our email newsletter and stay informed about upcoming trainings and funding opportunities.



EJ/CJ Fund

to Bring Federal Funding to NYC Neighborhoods

<https://changeapitalfund.org/fund-to-bring-federal-funding-to-nyc-neighborhoods/>



This moment:

\$47.5 billion for environmental justice priorities in the Inflation Reduction Act



CCF grants may support 3 ways to access federal funds:

Direct grants from federal agencies

- Nearly every federal agency for wide range of activity.
- E.g., EPA Community Change Grants NOFA for 2 or more CBOs.

Subgrants

- Block grants to City, State and/or Large Grants that require subgrants.
- E.g., Thriving Communities Grant recipients (\$55 million). NYC-based applicants: WeACT, NY CommunityTrust, NorthStar

Advocacy

- Advocate on behalf of your communities to city and state agencies and policy makers to realize your community's vision using new federal funding opportunities.
- E.g. Ask your govt partners how to leverage IRA \$.

Grants (in the range of \$50K) to:

- Hire a grant writer
- Conduct a feasibility study
- Organize a partnership
- Coordinate a coalition
- Facilitate community engaged planning
- You tell us...!

USE of CCF
FUNDS

Grantees access federal \$, directly or indirectly, in significant excess of the amount of CCF grant \$.

Projects realize gains for disadvantaged NYC residents and their neighborhoods.

Projects contribute to the climate sustainability and resiliency of New York City.

CCF GOALS

CCF EJ/CJ Fund to Bring Federal Funding to NYC Neighborhoods

CHANGE CAPITAL FUND
CREATING COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY

ABOUT GRANTEES PRESS CONTACT

SIGN UP TO GET UPDATES DELIVERED TO YOUR INBOX.
EMAIL: FIRST NAME: SIGN UP

CCF EJ/CJ Fund to Bring Federal Funding to NYC Neighborhoods

Proposals Due: Wednesday, 01/17/24

[START YOUR APPLICATION](#)

All invited organizations and their partners are encouraged to attend **CCF's information session on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 2 pm – 5 pm at the offices of Deutsche Bank, 1 Columbus Circle** (entrance on 58th Street) 10th floor, Coliseum Room A. At this forum, City and State officials and TA providers will discuss opportunities and share resources. Attendees will have a chance to connect with TA providers and other possible partners. Please [RSVP HERE](#)

On November 28, 2023, Change Capital Fund (CCF) issued a [Request for Proposals](#) to help environmental justice organizations access federal funding through the Inflation Reduction Act, the largest source of funding for climate and environmental justice solutions in U.S. history. CCF is inviting 40 environmental justice organizations to apply to this fund. We expect to distribute approximately \$500,000 in grants in the range of \$50,000 to about 10 organizations serving disadvantaged neighborhoods in New York City to increase their capacity to:


- apply directly for federal grants within the next year
- prepare to apply for anticipated subgrant opportunities
- to advocate to City and State agencies to apply for and direct federal funding to benefit their communities.

CCF grant funds may be used to help organizations access anticipated funding opportunities resulting from the IRA or EJ40 policies. We imagine that grants will be used to hire consultants or staff to help support grant writing, feasibility or other planning, coalition building, advocacy or other purposes that will lead to increased federal resources for disadvantaged neighborhoods of New York City.

CCF is inviting environmental/climate justice organizations with a track record of improving the health, sustainability and resiliency of their neighborhoods and communities to respond to this RFP. We will select grantees on the basis of clear and compelling proposals for: community need (5 points); proposed project (30 points); objectives to achieve federal funding (20 points); use of CCF funds (15 pts); project team capacity and community connection (15 pts); budget information (15 pts).

HOW TO APPLY: <https://change-capital-fund.org/fund-to-bring-federal-funding-to-nyc-neighborhoods/>

Application: CCF EJ/CJ Fund to Bring Federal Funding to NYC Neighborhoods



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EMAIL: FIRST NAME: SIGN UP

ABOUT GRANTEES PRESS CONTACT

Application: CCF EJ/CJ Fund to Bring Federal Funding to NYC Neighborhoods

You may download a copy of the complete Request for Proposals and application questions [here](#).

All fields are required. You may save your progress and store a copy of your application on this server. Change Capital Fund staff and administrators may have access to it, however, it will **not** be shared with any members of the grant review committee until the application is final and all materials are submitted.

Please Note: for security reasons, file uploads will NOT be saved, we advise that you upload these at the end when you are ready to submit the completed application.

CCF EJ/CJ Fund to Bring Federal Funding to NYC Neighborhoods

Step 1 of 8

Please complete and submit this form by midnight, Wednesday, January 17, 2024.

Cover Page

1. Organization

Organization Name

Applicant Contact Person

If you are applying as a partnership, please list the lead organization which would receive funds if grant is awarded.

Applicant Contact Person Email

HOW TO APPLY: <https://changecapitalfund.org/fund-to-bring-federal-funding-to-nyc-neighborhoods/>

- BIPOC-led organizations
- Citywide/membership organizations working in partnership with disadvantaged communities
- Strong leadership team reflecting the demographic make-up of your community
- Community-driven/ highly engaged with community
- Clear goals and plans
- Meaningful impact for your community
- Identified hoped-for federal funding

A large orange square graphic is positioned on the right side of the slide. Inside the square, the words "SELECTION" and "CRITERIA" are written in white, uppercase, serif font, stacked vertically. A thin vertical line is located to the left of the square.

SELECTION CRITERIA

(Unlikely to support retrofits of a single housing organization.)

Timeline

PROPOSALS DUE - On-Line Submission	Wed., JANUARY 17, 2024 (midnight)
Follow-up questions from funders	February 5 – February 9, 2024
Grant announcements to be made	Wed., FEBRUARY 14, 2024
Federal grants	Most applications due during 2024

EJ/CJ Fund

to Bring Federal Funding
to NYC Neighborhoods

QUESTIONS?

