

SoCalREN's Community-Based Design Collaborative

Meeting 3
March 25, 2025



Agenda and Meeting Objectives

Welcome & Recap from Last Meeting	10:30 to 10:45
Overview of Environmental & Social Justice Action Plan	10:45 to 11:15
Discussion: Gathering Program Ideas	11:15 to 12:30

Recap - Program Considerations



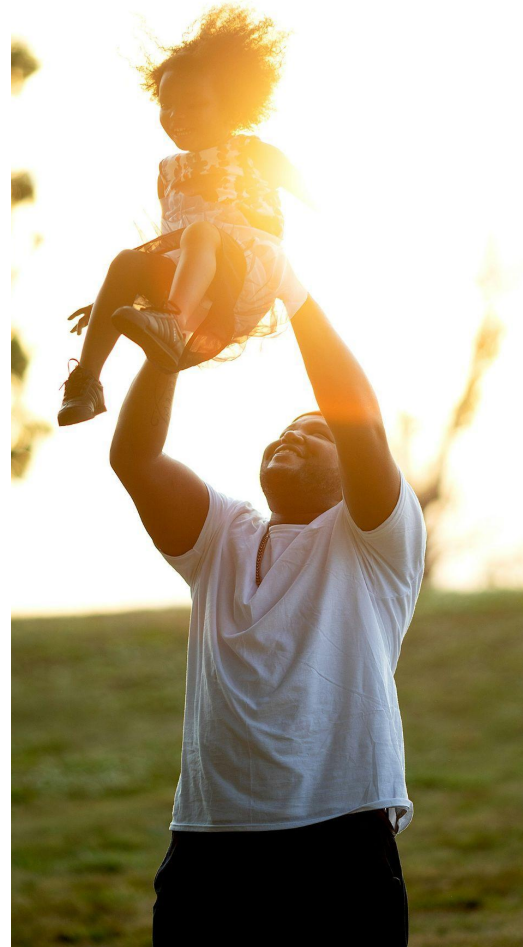
Impact

- Programs should lay the groundwork for future electrification.
- Outreach should be done by culturally conscious community liaisons to fully understand barriers.
- Acknowledge the tradeoffs (comfort, bills, food, and other necessities) that individuals make to afford energy costs and how those can be included in measuring program success.
- Importance of providing consistent support to customers from beginning to end of services.
- Collaborate with youth groups, opening doors to green careers, and building local wealth generation.
- Offer opportunities to build trust in and spread awareness of electrification.
- Programs should offer services that can be provided remotely and during a wide frame of time.
- Remove barriers such as invasive or frequent home visits that make people uncomfortable.
- Ensure confidentiality by removing participation requirements asking for personal information.



Equity

- Prioritize communities with the highest barriers but acknowledge that the first participants may not experience high barriers to participate.
- Consider the reach goal - should program success be measured by how many customers are served?
- Consider that system and policy changes are needed to sustain equitable programs.
- The program's design should prioritize Justice 40 zip codes but also include a percentage available for middle-income families.
- Program monitoring and improvement mechanisms should be put in place to ensure services are actually meeting needs. (Needs assessments, participant surveys, evaluations, etc.).



Energy Savings

- It's especially important to measure energy savings during times of extreme heat.
- Programs should differentiate whether people are using less energy because of energy retrofits or if they are using less energy to mitigate energy costs.
- For low-income households, bill savings should be the priority.



Program Parameters

Types of Program Services

- Programs presented in Meeting 2
- Ideas must be tied to energy efficiency (e.g., weatherization, education, training, etc.); solar, EV, and battery are not allowed.

What We Know About Funding

- Proposed program budgeting
- Funding for the selected program proposals
- Quantity of programs selected, regional representation

Soliciting Program Ideas

- Sources of program proposals
 - Collaboration encouraged with other organizations
- Criteria for evaluation will be developed in the next meeting

Overview of Environmental & Social Justice Action Plan



Environmental Social Justice Action Plan

- Developed by the California Public Utilities Commission with a total of 9 goals
- An acknowledgment that some populations in California face higher barriers to accessing clean, safe, and affordable utility services and these populations need dedicated focus and support
- Serves as a commitment, with goals and objectives, for environmental and social justice principles and seeks to integrate them into practice



Goal 1:

Consistently integrate equity and access considerations throughout CPUC regulatory activities.



Goal 2:

Increase investment in clean energy resources to benefit ESJ communities, especially to improve local air quality and public health.



Goal 5:

Enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for ESJ communities to meaningfully participate in the CPUC's decision-making process and benefit from CPUC programs.

Discussion



Discussion Questions

Goal: Develop individual outreach plans to gather program ideas from your community

Questions for Discussion:

- How can we leverage existing relationships and networks to encourage participation?
- What measures can we take to ensure the outreach is inclusive and allows for meaningful input from intended program participants?
- What are the best methods for collecting ideas (e.g., surveys, focus groups, brainstorming sessions, community meetings)?
- How are you feeling about conducting outreach? Any initial ideas on how you want to reach out to your communities?



Next Meeting

Meeting 4:

- Develop and agree on draft criteria for evaluation of program proposals and progress for the pilot, including reporting, metrics, and accountability.
- Finalize outreach plans to prospective partners and what, if any, gaps remain before collecting ideas.

Location: Virtual

[Post-Meeting Survey](#)