

2021 CLIMATE CAREERS SANTA CLARA COUNTY



RISING SUN
CENTER FOR OPPORTUNITY



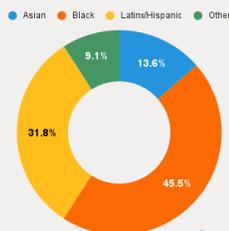
Since 2000, Rising Sun Center for Opportunity's Climate Careers program has operated as a highly innovative employment social enterprise, recruiting local youth into a meaningful earn-and-learn experience.

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.

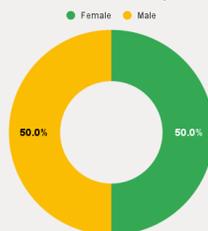
In 2021, Rising Sun partnered with BayREN to train and hire 24 local youth and serve 2,300 residents throughout all nine counties of BayREN territory with a Green House Call and energy efficiency kit. To date, Rising Sun has served 55,282 Green House Calls and trained and employed 2,018 youth participants.

YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS

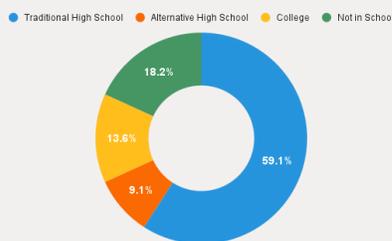
Race & Ethnicity



Gender Identity



Current Education Status



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, Rising Sun partnered with Santa Clara County to send 492 energy efficiency kits filled with energy- and water-saving devices to local homes throughout the territory. Assuming that clients installed all measures included, energy and water savings equate to an annual reduction of 215,710 kWh of electricity, 9,194 therms of heat, and 2,078,514 gallons of water, preventing 201 metric tons of CO2 from entering the atmosphere each year. This is equivalent to avoiding CO2 greenhouse gas emissions from the following:



499,385

miles driven by an average passenger vehicle



22,726

gallons of gasoline consumed



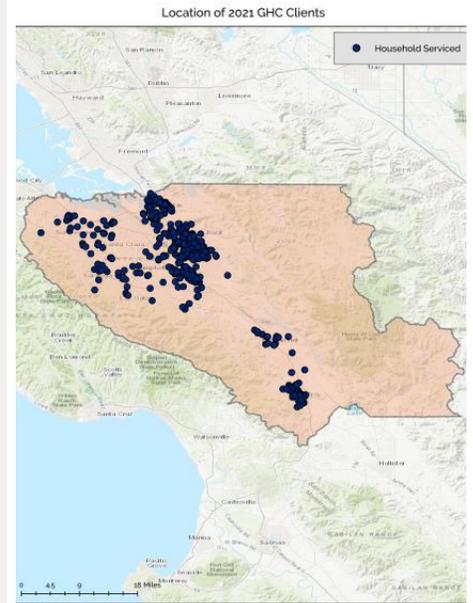
35

homes electricity use for one year



25,879,518

smartphones charged



MATERIALS DELIVERED



1,927

LED flood light bulbs



5,740

LED globe light bulbs



492

efficient-flow showerheads



1,435

kitchen and bathroom aerators



492

tier-2 advanced power strips



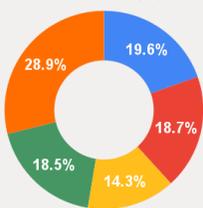
492

LED night lights

HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS

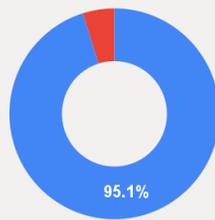
Non-English Language

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



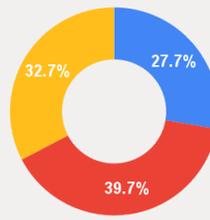
Households

● Owner ● Renter



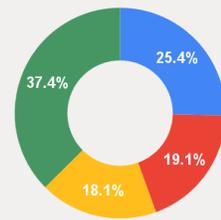
Income

● Low Income ● Moderate Income ● High Income



Race & Ethnicity

● Hispanic/Latinx ● Southeast Asian/Pacific Islander ● East Asian ● 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."