



2023 CLIMATE CAREERS SANTA CLARA COUNTY REPORT

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 in which they are trained and employed to provide energy and water efficiency services, called Green House Calls, to households throughout the nine Bay Area counties and the Central Valley. We are delighted to report that 2023 was another fantastic year of programmatic delivery and youth engagement.

In 2023, in partnership with supporter and programmatic funder, BayREN and County of Santa Clara Office of Sustainability, Rising Sun was able to train and hire 35 Bay Area youth, 9 from Santa Clara County, to serve 2,004 households with Green House Calls. To date, Rising Sun has provided more than 59,500 Green House Calls to residents throughout the Bay Area and the Central Valley and trained and employed more than 1,900 youth participants.

In addition to providing their communities with Green House Calls, youth participants also participated in weekly 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 services and programming, participants then put their newfound skills into action through paid career exploration opportunities with trusted secondary partner organizations working in the clean economy.



ENERGY & WATER SAVINGS, SANTA CLARA COUNTY

In 2023, Rising Sun served 559 Santa Clara County households with Green House Calls, providing residents with energy- and water-saving devices. Of the 559 homes serviced, 170 were provided with an in-person Green House Call and 389 with a mailed Energy Efficiency Kit. The estimated energy and water savings equate to an annual reduction of 110,348 kWh of electricity, 4,602 therms of heat, and 1,036,114 gallons of water, preventing 103 metric tons of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere each year. This is equivalent to avoiding CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions from the following:



254,564

miles driven by an average passenger vehicle



11,540

gallons of gasoline consumed



20

homes electricity use for one year



12,474,963

smartphones charged

MATERIALS DELIVERED, SANTA CLARA COUNTY



3,566 LED globe light bulbs

893 LED flood light bulbs

494 LED smart light bulbs



419 efficient-flow showerheads

914 kitchen and bathroom aerators



297 smart power strips

731 smart plugs



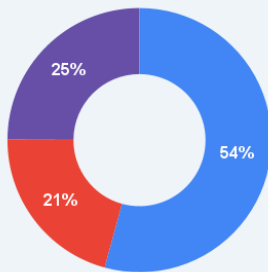
552 LED nightlights

1,168 draft-stopping outlet gaskets

HOUSEHOLD DEMOGRAPHICS, SANTA CLARA COUNTY

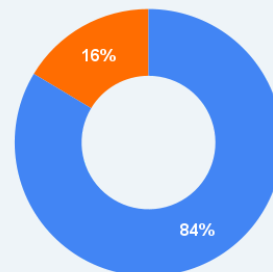
Income

● Low Income ● Moderate Income ● Above Moderate Income



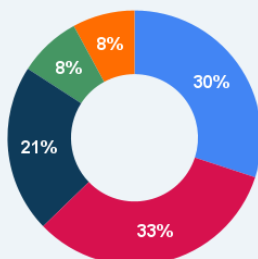
Households

● Owner ● Renter



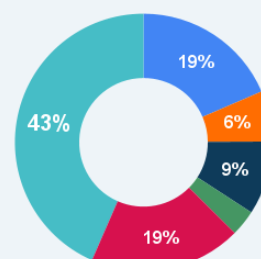
Race & Ethnicity

● White ● Asian ● Latino/Latina/Latinx/Hispanic ● Mixed Race ● Other



Primary Language Spoken at Home

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



*Percentages based off clients who responded to voluntary demographic questions

YOUTH TESTIMONIALS

"Thank you (Rising Sun) for giving me the chance to help out my community, make new friendships, connections through the summer program and externship, and giving me more of an idea on what I'd like to do with my future." -Jesus Magdelano

EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMMING

For the third year, Climate Careers also administered an externship program. The purpose of the externship program is to provide Climate Careers youth who have successfully completed Rising Sun's Climate Careers summer program with an additional 140 hours of paid, real-world, work experience with a clean economy-related organization. This additional work experience helps youth participants to build social capital, demonstrate their abilities to perform in a professional environment, develop additional transferable skills and expose them to additional employment pathways. In 2023 the Climate Careers program partnered with 18 organizations to place 37 youth participants.

EXTERNSHIPS PARTNERS



CLIENT FEEDBACK

"What an amazing and much-appreciated program. The box of efficiency items was amazing, as well. Thank you for reaching out to the community with these supplies and education."

"The two young people that checked my water and changed out my lighting to LEDs were efficient and easy to work with. I am delighted to have all my old lights switched to energy-efficient LEDs. This is a great program."