

## **Organizational Overview**

### **About GRID Alternatives**

GRID Alternatives is a nonprofit organization that makes renewable energy technology and training accessible to underserved communities. We bring together community partners, volunteers and job trainees to implement solar power and energy efficiency for low-income families, providing energy cost savings, valuable hands-on experience, and a source of clean, local energy that benefits us all.

### Who We Serve

Homeowners across Colorado are faltering under the weight of housing costs. Household energy costs can create economic stress for families already on the brink, and even increase the risk of homelessness.

GRID Alternatives' Solar Affordable Housing Program addresses this by providing low-income families a long-term solution to high energy bills and source of clean, local power. With our volunteer-based model, we also enable local solar trainees to gain the hands-on experience that translates into jobs.



A trainee from Mile High Youth Corps learns about solar wiring in Denver.



GRID client Ann volunteered in Steamboat Springs, Colorado to build the solar array that will save money for her family, and her community. Her husband, a veteran, must use medical equipment which runs on electricity for his health condition, making their electric bills difficult to afford.

### **GRID Alternatives Colorado**

GRID Alternatives was started in 2004, and now serves California, Colorado, the New York Tri-State area, Mid-Atlantic regiona, and Tribal communities across the nation.

GRID Alternatives Colorado was the first affiliate opened outside California, and, since 2012, has installed more than 5.4 megawatts of solar on our clients' rooftops, community solar gardens, and affordable housing projects. These projects have created over \$4 million in savings for families and affordable housing providers, and provided more than 9,000 hours of hands-on solar training to over 1,100 volunteers and job trainees. By leveraging public resources and private donations, GRID is bringing the benefits of solar to families that need it most.

## **Impacts**

5.4 MW

Clean, renewable power installed.

# \$5 million

Savings generated for more than 340 low-income families and 4 affordable housing providers

1,100 Volunteers trained in solar

172,286 tons

Greenhouse gas emissions prevented over the systems' lifetimes.



## **Get Involved**

Every GRID Alternatives project is a community project. Homeowners, volunteers, local organizations, businesses, municipalities and generous donors all pitch in the get the job done.

No matter how you choose to contribute, the benefits of partnership with GRID Alternatives are real: savings for local families; marketable skills for job seekers; and clean, locally generated energy that helps us all.

### Volunteer

Get on the roof and start making a difference! No experience required. Sign up at www.gridalternatives.org.

- Community members get the chance to help their neighbors, give back and have fun.
- Workers gain marketable skills in solar and networking opportunities.
- Our team leader program provides advanced training and leadership opportunities to experienced volunteers

### **Partner**

- We work with job training organizations to provide students hands-on experience.
- We help cut costs for affordable housing organizations.
- We partner with municipalities and local governments to keep communities vital.

### **Sponsor or Donate**

- · Donate. Visit our website at www.gridalternatives.org.
- Sponsor an installation. You'll not only be supporting your community but also building your team when you send your employees or members out to install solar for a local family.
- Invest. Put your philanthropic dollars to work by investing in GRID Alternatives' triple bottom line.



Subscribers to GRID's first community solar array celebrate at Solarthon 2015 in Grand Junction.





### Solarthon!

Solarthon is our largest installation event of the year, an annual solar block party to raise funds for and awareness of our work around the state. Hundreds of individual and corporate sponsors, job trainees and the homeowners themselves come together to install solar systems on multiple homes in one neighborhood in a single day. Find out how you can participate at www.solarthon.org.