



# Climate Equity Fund

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## Tier 1 Community Roots Application Preview

Instructions: Please note that this downloadable text document version is for application preparation purposes only. You will need to copy and paste your responses into the actual [Community Roots Application platform for your official submission](#) via the Boulder County website. The portal will close at 5pm on August 31, 2026.

## Applicant Eligibility Screening Questions

The guiding questions below, designed based on the eligibility criteria, can help a group decide if the CEF is a good match for their project. If you answer “no” to any of these questions, please reach out to [climateequityfund@jsi.org](mailto:climateequityfund@jsi.org) to discuss your eligibility before applying.

1. Is the lead applicant’s official address within Boulder County?
2. Will all or most of the project take place in and provide benefit to Boulder County?
3. Does the project take meaningful action on climate change? Specifically, does the project reduce climate pollution (greenhouse gas emissions) or build community resilience to a changing climate?
4. Will the project serve frontline and/or disproportionately impacted (DI) communities, as defined by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment?
  - The State of Colorado defines DI communities to include: low-income communities, communities of color, housing cost-burdened communities, linguistically isolated communities, communities with environmental and socioeconomic impacts, Tribal lands, mobile home communities, and historically marginalized communities ([Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment](#)).
5. Is the project designed collaboratively with the community it aims to serve?
6. Is the community meaningfully involved in implementation and decision-making throughout the course of the project?

## Applicant Information

The following applicant information will be collected through a survey response via our application platform. It is not included in word count and will be separated from the “Letter of Interest Narrative” below in order to anonymize the review.

- [Short text] **Organization/Group Name**
- [Short text] **Organization/Group Type** (select all that apply)
  - Nonprofit 501(c)(3)
  - Fiscally-sponsored organization
  - Informal group
  - Other - write in
- [Short text] **Primary Contact:** One name, one email, one phone number.
- [Short text] **Project Title:** A clear, descriptive name
- [Short text] **Organizational/group mission statement**
- [Short text] **Organization/Group Mailing Address:** Street address, city, state, ZIP code
- [Short text] **Organization/group annual operating budget for past 2 years**
  - 2024
  - 2025
- [Short text] **Requested funding amount.** The project period is January 2027 - December 2027.
- [Short text] **Budget Guidance:** Our goal is to ensure that grant recipients are able to manage their award. In most cases, budgets for Community Roots grants must meet one of the following requirements. Please select which requirement your budget meets.
  - The budget for a proposed project is less than 30% of the lead applicant's annual operating budget from the previous fiscal year
  - The project budgets are less than \$50,000 for groups that have NOT previously received or managed any grant
  - The applicant has a fiscal sponsor
  - None of the above
    - If ‘none of the above’ is selected, a new question appears: Please use this space to provide more context on your requested funding amount and whether your group has the capacity to manage the requested funds.
- [Multiple Choice] **What is the primary focus of your proposed project?** Pick the area that best matches your project.
  - Land, Air, Water, and Food Systems
  - Mobility, Infrastructure, and the Built Environment
  - Mutual Aid, Basic Needs, and Climate Resilience
  - Cultural Resilience, Healing, and Connection

- Storytelling, Media, and Arts
  - Zero-Waste and Low-Carbon Living
  - Education and Youth Engagement
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- [Checkbox] **What geographic area(s) are served by this project?**
    - City of Boulder
    - Town of Erie
    - Town of Jamestown
    - City of Lafayette
    - City of Longmont
    - City of Louisville
    - Town of Lyons
    - Town of Nederland
    - Town of Superior
    - Town of Ward
    - Unincorporated Towns & Communities
      - Allenspark
      - Coal Creek Canyon
      - Eldora
      - Eldorado Springs
      - Gold Hill
      - Gunbarrel
      - Hygiene
      - Niwot
- [Checkbox] **Which Disproportionately Impacted (DI) community(ies) does your project benefit?** (source: [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment](#)) (select all that apply)
    - Low-income communities
    - Communities of color
    - Housing cost-burdened communities
    - Linguistically isolated communities
    - Communities with environmental and socioeconomic impacts
    - Tribal lands
    - Mobile home communities
    - Historically marginalized communities

# Letter of Interest (LOI) Narrative

Your narrative response should be uploaded as an attachment.

Please use a 12-point font and 1-inch margins. Your response must not exceed:

- For applications written in English: 2 pages or 2,000 words
- For applications written in Spanish: 2,500 words
  - Spanish translations typically expand by 15-30% compared to English. This happens because Spanish uses more prepositions, articles, and gender-based modifiers, and frequently relies on multi-word phrases for concepts that English expresses in a single compound word. Source: [JR Language](#)

## 1. Problem/Solution Statement + Community of Benefit

What is the specific gap you are filling with your proposed project and who will benefit? In your answer, please include:

- **Need:** The community's need or problem, including any relevant data proving the need or problem, and how this need or problem was identified by and/or with the community of benefit
- **Community of Benefit:** The community(ies) who will benefit from this project and why they are (a) frontline/disproportionately (DI) community(ies)
  - The State of Colorado defines DI communities to include: low-income communities, communities of color, housing cost-burdened communities, linguistically isolated communities, communities with environmental and socioeconomic impacts, Tribal lands, mobile home communities, and historically marginalized communities ([Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment](#)).
- **Strengths:** The community's assets and strengths that will contribute to the project's success

## 2. Project Overview

What is your proposed project? In your answer, please include:

- **Objectives:** The 2-3 main objectives of the proposed project (e.g., "To increase residents' knowledge of and preparedness for wildfire-related emergencies")
- **Core Activities:** The planned work to achieve each objective (e.g., "We will host 5 workshops for up to 100 unique residents in mobile home communities near vegetated areas in Boulder County.")
  - Please explain how community(ies) of benefit will be involved in implementation and/or decision-making related to each activity
- **Climate Action:** How the project takes meaningful and equitable action on climate change.

- Specifically, please explain how the project reduces climate pollution (e.g., greenhouse gas emissions) or builds community resilience to a changing climate
- **Project Sustainability:** How the project will continue or have a lasting impact beyond the one-year funding period.
  - Optionally, please include if there is potential to grow or expand on the project if it is successful
- **Budget:** Total dollar amount you are requesting for this project, with a high-level explanation of what costs will be covered.