2018 PROGRAM REPORT



NTERONNECTION



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Solar One is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization whose mission is to design and deliver innovative education, training, and technical assistance that fosters sustainability and resiliency in diverse urban environments. We empower learning that changes the way people think about energy, sustainability, and resilience by engaging and educating a diverse set of stakeholders and beneficiaries. Our programs help individuals and communities explore new ways of living and working that are more adaptive to a changing world.

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Directors Letter

April 25, 2019



2018 has been quite a year to look back on. We've seen unprecedented heat waves, cold snaps, wildfires and floods across the country and across the globe. We've had more ice disappear in Antarctica than ever before. And unbelievably,

we still added a greater amount of global carbon to the atmosphere in 2018 than we did in 2017. Based on these numbers, you might think that 2018 was the year of massive discouragement. But you would be mistaken.

While many alarming metrics have increased and the planet is creeping ever closer to 2 degrees of warming (the point when most scientists believe things will start getting REALLY nasty, climate-wise), in the end, 2018 may go down in history as the year we finally started to take climate change seriously.

Today, as humans living in the information age, we are becoming ever more aware of how interconnected we are. The actions and priorities of nations, corporations and institutions, and even individuals will determine just how unstable the future will be. If we choose to work together with an eye to a better future, we will only make progress by helping each other take both small steps and giant leaps in that direction. At Solar One, one of the great challenges has always been explaining exactly what it is that we do. Unlike most other organizations, we do not focus exclusively on a single program area; instead we've placed our bets on the hope that, at some point, the natural synergies between our programs would lead to opportunities for interconnection that would strengthen our organizational goals, and build bonds between staff members as collaborators and innovators.

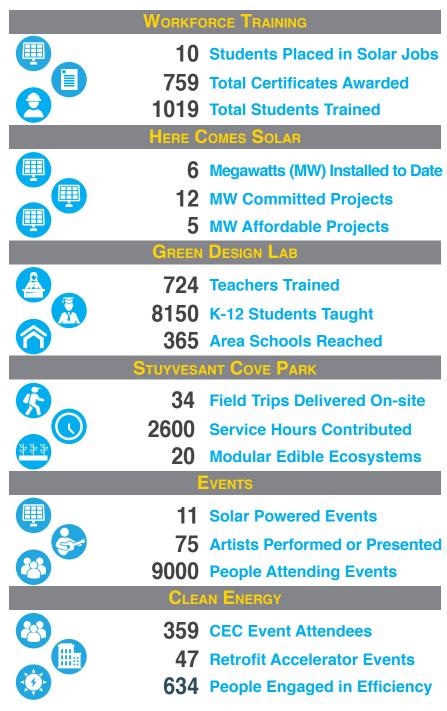
It took a lot of policy leadership at the local and state levels and tons of hard work, but I am proud to say that 2018 was the year when those opportunities came to fruition. The interconnection between our Green Design Lab education program, our Green Workforce program, and our Here Comes Solar program has resulted in more solar installations in low income communities, more jobs for the formerly incarcerated and under-employed, more expertise to prepare youth with 21st century skills, and more evidence that these synergies are not just a hope for the future, but are already happening in our communities right now.

In 2019, my hope is that we continue to develop and strengthen our commitment to our partners, our staff, our community and our planet. As we prepare to construct and open the new Solar One Environmental Education Center, we are poised to make an impact like never before. I have always been excited and inspired by the mission of Solar One, but there's never been a more exciting or inspiring time to be involved than right now.

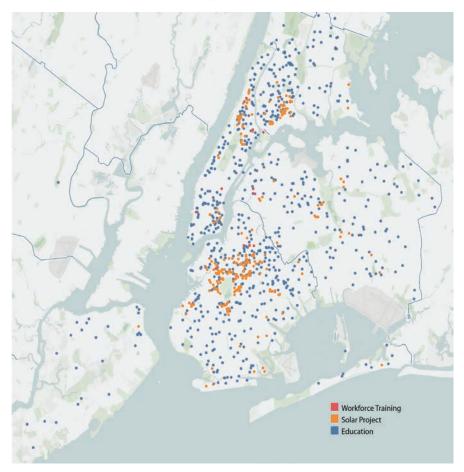
Sincerely Christopher Alellom

Christopher J. Collins Executive Director

By The Numbers



Project Map



n 2018, Solar One's programs really began to benefit from the foundation we built in the previous several years. Our reach in the five boroughs is growing quickly and we are pleased that we have brought our programs to an ever-wider range of people and communities. In 2018, our Workforce Training Program reached over 1000 students, our Green Design Lab programs taught over 8,000 NYC school students and more than 700 teachers, and our Here Comes Solar program is helping thousands of New Yorkers enjoy the benefits of solar power. The map above offers a snapshot of where we've worked in 2018.

SOLARONE Workforce Training

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olar One's Green Workforce Training Program offers green hard skills technical training and industry recognized certifications tied to green building operations and maintenance, energy efficiency, and solar. We deliver our courses in active, hands-on formats at our state-of-the-art training lab located in Queens.

Training for Unemployed NYers

2018 was one of the busiest years to date for Solar One's Green Workforce team. Our instructors delivered hands-on, hard skills training courses to 27 cohorts throughout the year, totaling 402 entry-level unemployed individuals. Participants come to Solar One through strategic partnerships with many NYC workforce development agencies that provide job readiness and placement services for clients with previous criminal backgrounds, substance abuse issues, homelessness, under- and unemployment, and other hurdles that have prevented clients from developing a stable career track. Some of our



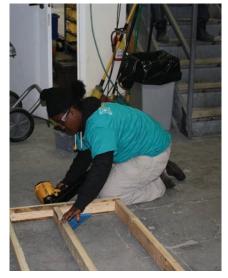
primary partners include: STRIVE International, The Fortune Society, WE ACT for Environmental Justice, St. Nicks Alliance, Green City Force, Building Works, LaGuardia Community College, and Brooklyn Workforce Innovations.

Hands-on Training for Incarcerated Students

Solar One continued its successful educational program at Rikers Island to deliver hard skills training to 92 individuals through the year. These clients attended Solar One classes via The Fortune Society's I-CAN program, where services are provided to assist re-entry and employment efforts following incarceration. Instructors taught the students carpentry, electrical, HVAC, building maintenance, and solar PV for successful transition upon release from prison. Furthermore, the Green Workforce team piloted new classes in solar PV to recently released individuals twice throughout the year, leading to direct job placement opportunities with solar installation companies for graduates of the program.

Incumbent Building Staff Training

The Green Workforce team began programming that targets incumbent building staff across NYC. These efforts focus on an understanding of building science and operational efficiency at a variety of staffing levels with a goal of reducing total energy usage, lowering overall building costs and cutting carbon emissions. Partners include First Service Energy, Riseboro Community Partnership and Housing Works.



Additionally, Solar One continued its support for the

NYC Retrofit Accelerator by hosting onsite building walk-throughs for superintendents, building maintenance staff and property managers. This program strives to engage staff in conversations and critical thinking about the energy efficiency within their own buildings, allowing them to make better informed operational decisions and take advantage of energy savings opportunities.

WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Total Students Trained

Total Certificates Awarded

Students Placed in Solar Jobs

And there's more!

In 2018, we had 27 total entry level cohorts including a successful new partnership with WEACT which brought us 4 cohorts. In 2018 The Fortune Society and STRIVE remained our largest partners, and a new partnership with St. Nicks will continue its growth in 2019. Our Green Construction and Green Building Operations and Maintenance remain the most popular classes. In 2018, we surpassed 3,000 total students trained since the program began in 2009.

Learn more about the Workforce Training Program: www.solar1.org/green-workforce

SOLARONE Here Comes Solar

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ere Comes Solar envisions urban communities where solar power is accessible, affordable and incredibly common. We are working to make this vision a reality by helping affordable housing providers, multifamily co-ops, environmental justice groups, and community centers make their solar projects happen. We are developing new financing, ownership and procurement models for solar in the city, expanding the market to better serve communities who have had limited access to date. With each project we are building an employment pipeline for our Green Workforce Training Program graduates, bringing clean energy and employment opportunities to those who need it most.

Solar for Multifamily/Affordable Housing

During 2018, HCS facilitated several pioneering solar projects on affordable housing in NYC. We worked with WE ACT for Environmental Justice and the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board to organize the nation's first successful solar purchasing group comprised of affordable housing cooperatives.



We also helped the Joint Ownership Entity NYC launch a 1.2 megawatt rooftop solar initiative for its affordable housing portfolio which includes more than 80 buildings, and facilitated competitive procurement for more than 700 kilowatts-DC of solar through the NYC Department of Housing

Preservation and Development's Green Housing Preservation Program. To date we have catalyzed more than five megawatts of solar on affordable housing, with many more projects right behind that. These projects are enabled through strategies including bulk procurement, creative solar energy credit distribution (onsite and offsite community solar), and third-party financing. In 2019, we are continuing to expand our work with multifamily/affordable housing in NYC, and launching our first projects in New Jersey.

Community Solar

Community solar is a new utility crediting mechanism that allows individual households, including renters, to participate in large solar arrays located elsewhere in the same utility service area. In 2018, we connected hundreds of New Yorkers to the City's first community solar projects while supporting our environmental justice partners in developing their own low-income community solar projects. These projects demonstrate that low-income community can, and must, play a central role in an equitable transition to clean energy. We are proud to be supporting the success of these projects.

Sunset Park Solar: HCS helped environmental justice nonprofit UPROSE launch Sunset Park Solar, a 672 kilowatt-DC solar project on the roof of the Brooklyn Army Terminal which will be New York's first cooperatively owned community solar project. Co-op Power will own and operate the system on behalf of the nearly 200 Sunset Park households recruited by UPROSE, and Solar One will provide workforce training to neighborhood residents, six of whom will be hired by the solar installer.

Community Power: Solar One is partnering with Con Edison and NYCHA to install solar on three NYCHA developments by and for low-income New Yorkers. The 1.2 megawatt solar project, which will integrate NYCHA resident apprentices, will provide approximately 350 low-income families with utility bill savings.

Solar + Energy Storage

Solar One is working with the NY Governor's Office of Storm Recovery to install solar + energy storage systems on at least 12 community centers located in Superstorm Sandy-affected areas. These systems will power critical loads in the event of future emergencies, allowing the community centers to serve as resilience hubs for these frontline communities. Installation for the first four sites will begin in 2019, and the remaining 8+ sites will be under contract by the end of the year. In parallel with the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery program, Solar One is exploring the technical and financial feasibility of integrating energy storage into solar projects on affordable housing in NYC and New Jersey.

HERE COMES SOLAR PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 6 Ministalled to Date 1 2 Ministalled 1 2 Ministall

And there's more!

Since 2014, we've developed 12 megawatts of solar projects in underserved market segments and are on track to surpass 20 megawatts by the end of 2019. 12 megawatts of solar capacity generates enough power for 3,457 typical NYC apartments, provides an estimated 375 million in lifetime utility bill savings, and will have the environmental impact of planting 4.8 million seedlings or removing 39,024 cars from the road. That's a reduction of about 203,639 tons of CO2 emissions.

Learn more about Here Comes Solar: www.herecomessolar.nyc

SOLARONE Green Design Lab

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STEM education program and curriculum, which provides resources and professional development for teachers, and classroom residency programs for students. Utilizing the school building as both a laboratory for learning and a tool for environmental change, it is considered a "go-to" program for the NYC DOE (Department of Education) for STEM education. GDL inspires and prepares students to contribute to the clean energy economy through creative problemsolving, experiential learning, and real-world application of environmental STEM skills.

Our reputation for innovative environmental STEM education has been recognized nationally as well, and we were approached by The Green Schools Catalyst Quarterly (GSCQ) to write an article about our work. "Paving the Path to Green Careers in New York City" was featured in their December 2018 edition (Alsen, Karen. "Paving the Path to Green Careers in New York City." Green Schools Catalyst Quarterly. Dec. 2018. p.60). GSCQ is a peer reviewed, high interest digital magazine that highlights evidence-based practices and is the only publication dedicated to the advancement of green, healthy, sustainable K-12 schools.

Professional Development Training for Teachers



During 2018, Solar One delivered PD workshops in partnership with the NYC DOE as part of multiple citywide STEM programs including the NYC Solar Schools Education program, DOE Office of Sustainability trainings, three-day STEM Institutes organized by DOE's STEM team, and through the DOE English Language Learners program. Solar One also delivered

workshops to informal and formal educators across New York State in partnership with the New York Power Authority Environmental Justice program. Participants responded to these events with great enthusiasm: Nearly all of the teachers surveyed said they would recommend a Solar One training to another educator.

CareerCLUE

In the summer of 2018, Solar One, in partnership with the NYC DOE Office of Community Schools and the Department of Youth and Community Development's Summer Youth Employment Program (DYCD, SYEP) delivered CareerCLUE (Community Learning, Understanding and Experience). CareerCLUE, an enriching 6-week long, full-time summer program for high school students, blends foundational academics, career exploration, field trips, personal development and service learning projects. Solar One's curriculum has been approved as a credit-bearing course for the third year in a row.

NYC Solar CTE Education Program

During 2018, Solar One piloted the Solar Career and Technical Education (CTE) program in collaboration with the NYC DOE Office of Sustainability and the NYC DOE Office of Post-Secondary Readiness, which manages CTE programs. The goal of the Solar CTE program is to implement solar installation classes within existing electrical programs at technical high schools across New York City.



Solar One educators visited each school for two weeks to facilitate program content and co-teach with classroom teachers. Topics covered included: benefits of solar, solar site assessment, solar circuits, mountings and installing electrical components, and solar careers. The Solar CTE program concluded with a capstone project where students worked in groups to install four 200 watt stand-alone solar systems. The schools keep all the supplies so that they may continue to train students on solar installation in the future.

GREEN DESIGN LAB PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Teachers

Total Trained

K-12 Students Taught

Area Schools Reached

And there's more!

In 2018, 96% of teachers surveyed reported that they plan to incorporate the lessons or activities in their classroom and 96% said the training increased their knowledge and understanding of energy and/or sustainability and STEM content. Plus, 98% said the session motivated them to teach their students about environmental issues and sustainability.

Learn more about the Green Design Lab: www.thegreendesignlab.org



Stuyvesant Cove Park continues to serve our local community and beyond as a unique and beautiful place that has evolved from landscaped public gardens into a productive managed wildlife habitat that serves as a successful example of an engineered wilderness grown on a former industrial site.



In 2018, Stuyvesant Cove Park saw some exciting changes, including a new park manager, expansion of education and community programs, launch of the LES Ferry line, further development of the children's play garden, and preparations for significant future changes to the park. New permaculture park programs centered around resiliency and the sustainable and productive management of urban land have begun to realize the capacity of our two acre waterfront site to serve as a living symbol of the potential for urban ecological restoration and renewal.

Wild Foods

Stuy Cove Park is organically managed as an all-native plant food forest, and is the only NYC park that encourages foraging of wild foods. Through delicious indigenous plants, we teach about the complex interdependencies of native plants, wildlife, and people. We also have a working permaculture plant nursery, host and contribute to wild foods events, and harvest wild edibles for culinary uses.

Resiliency

In the coming years, our park will be clearcut, razed, and re-built to provide flood protection as part of the East Side Coastal Resiliency project. In preparation, we are working to incubate the biological diversity cultivated over the past 15 years at Stuyvesant Cove by propagating and banking our wealth of locally adapted plants in pallet-size portable containers. These Modular Edible Ecosystems will be moved off-site temporarily during construction, and then brought back in to populate the new park.

Urban Land Stewardship

As we work together with students and volunteers on sustainable service learning projects, facilitators teach the park as it is today: a young wilderness protected by the City of New York as a "recognized ecological complex," and designated as a wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. We ask, how did this happen? Is this interesting? Is it replicable? Participants discuss what they see in the park in the context of ecological succession in an urban island landscape.



STUYVESANT COVE PARK HIGHLIGHTS

Field Trips Delivered On-site

2600 Community Service Hours Contributed

Modular Edible Ecosystems Planted

And there's more!

In 2018, we developed **5** new field trip curricula and established native plant gardens at August Martin and Central Park East High Schools. And as always, we remain a hub of activity for the community, with 100's of volunteers offering their time and energy and over **50,000** joggers, bikers, dog walkers, stroller pushers and other visitors enjoying the park.

Learn more about Stuyvesant Cove Park: www.solar1.org/stuyvesant-cove-park

SOLARONE Events

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COMPANY AND

uring the summer months, the blacktop area surrounding the Solar 1 building serves as a gathering and event space for the community and beyond. Using solar power generated by the photovoltaic array on the roof, musical performances, film screenings, poetry and spoken word performances, Fourth of July fireworks and even an authentic Bavarian Oktoberfest are held, and these events generate revenue that helps maintain Stuyvesant Cove Park.



Solar One works with a diverse group of partners, including local social justice organizations, filmakers and artists, community associations, faith and cultural oriented groups and area businesses.

Partner Organizations

- Jews for Racial & Economic Justice
- Jewish Latin Center
- Rooftop Films
- Stuyvesant Cove Park Association
- Zum Schneider

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Solar Powered Events

Artists Performed or Presented

People Attended Events

And there's more!

Solar One has been hosting events in Stuy Cove Park since the organizations inception in 2004. Since then, we have hosted music and dance events, art installations, performance art, Revelries by the River and our famous Oktoberfest for 4 years running. Over the years, 10's of 1,000's of New Yorkers have been to an event at the park, and we look forward to continuing this tradition into 2020 and beyond.

Learn more about Events: www.solar1.org/events

SOLARONE Energy Connections

nergy Connections supports local State and City climate and clean energy initiatives. We use targeted outreach, education, and planning assistance strategies to advance the implementation of high impact actions to meet climate change goals.

Energy Connections creates awareness amongst building decision makers, residents, and businesses to drive investment in energy efficiency. The program works with NYC agencies to provide technical assistance for initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions such as energy efficiency and electrification. And it forms and leverages strategic partnerships through boots on the ground outreach to community-based organizations in the City's diverse communities, real estate industry groups, and other stakeholders.

NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Program

Through this program, Solar One is assisting the City of New York with implementing high impact actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Key initiatives include helping the City expand its building efficiency

benchmarking program, supporting City agencies with climate action planning, and helping the City develop new programs to advance building efficiency and electrification. In late 2017, we assisted NYC in developing its climate action plan, titled "1.5C:



Aligning New York City with the Paris Climate Agreement." The bold plan put forth dozens of climate actions that City agencies have committed to, and in 2018 Solar One supported the City with tracking progress and implementation of these commitments.

NYC Retrofit Accelerator

Since 2015, Solar One has provided outreach, educational, and training services as part of the NYC Retrofit Accelerator team, an initiative of the NYC Mayor's Office of Sustainability. The program offers direct one-to-one independent, customized technical assistance to building decision makers at no cost to help accelerate the process for energy and water efficiency upgrades. Solar One staff present, exhibit, and leverage partnerships with industry organizations to generate leads for projects to drive investment in clean energy upgrades.

Clean Energy Connections

This live discussion series features thought leaders and innovators in the energy field, and sparks dialogue on the state of the evolving cleantech industry. In 2018, we produced three events at the WNYC Greene Space in collaboration with our partner NYC ACRE:

Role of Offshore Wind in the Development of a Greener Grid February 6, 2018

Proving the Market for Deep Energy Retrofits May 30, 2018

The Energy Gang Live with special guest Eric Roston! October 4, 2018



ENERGY CONNECTIONS HIGHLIGHTS

Clean Energy Connections Attendees

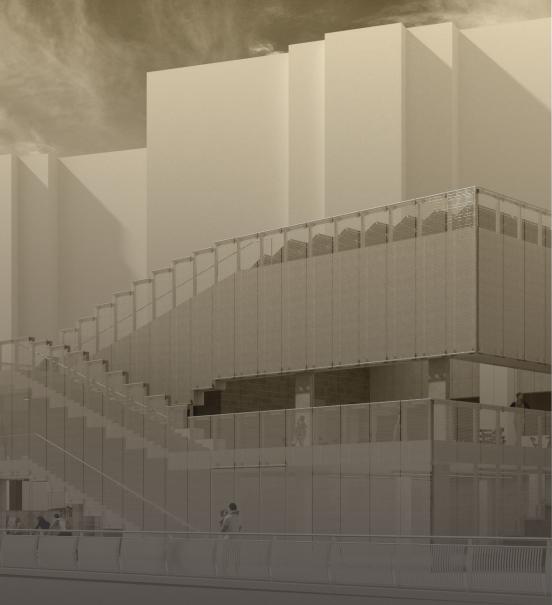
Retrofit Accelerator Outreach Events

Individuals Engaged In Energy Efficiency

And there's more!

Since 2014, when Solar One began partnering with NYC ACRE, the Clean Energy Connections series has been seen and heard through live and recorded podcasts by many 1,000's of people. And the NYC Retrofit Accelerator remains a vital part of the City's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2050.

Learn more about Energy Connections: www.solar1.org/ clean-energy-connections



SOLARONE Environmental Education Center

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Solar One's Environmental Education Center will be the first resilient waterfront education center in any major U.S. city. As singular as New York City itself, the building will serve as an extension of our green energy education programs, a real-world exhibit of sustainable design and green technology, and a center for the vibrant Stuyvesant Cove community.

Located along the East River just south of 23rd Street, the building will be perfectly situated to take advantage of ideal solar orientation. The center will be adaptable to changing conditions and technological developments, and we have established resiliency goals and standards that will allow for future upgrading of the technologies integral to the building's design.

The location of the center, only steps from the East River, presents both challenges and opportunities for innovative flood protection design, especially considering the lessons learned from Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Prior to the installation of full flood protection as part of the East Side Coastal Resiliency Project (ESCR),



the building will employ a passive resiliency strategy with a permeable ground floor of mostly unconditioned space, and a second floor that is elevated out of the floodplain. A photovoltaic roof and energy storage system will complete the resiliency features and enable the center to provide power in the event of a grid failure.

With little to no equipment or permanent installations on the ground floor, the space can still easily transition to a café/gallery, reception area or event space as needed. The second floor can be partitioned for quiet work spaces or opened up to create larger classrooms, event space or a lecture hall.

Solar One anticipates the integration of future ESCR flood protection, allowing a landscaped berm to wrap around the building, nestling it into the surroundings and utilizing it for additional second level access. With this design, classrooms become connected to a series of learning landscapes throughout Stuyvesant Cove Park.

Board and Staff

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Events Dina Elkan Director, Arts & Events

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NYSERDA Clean Energy

Communities Program Nicole Joseph Clean Energy Communities Coordinator Elissa Knight Clean Energy Communities Coordinator

Stuyvesant Cove Park

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Major Supporters

Government DASNY Governor's Office of Storm Recovery – NY Rising Manhattan Borough President's Office – Hon. Gale Brewer NYC Council – Speaker Corey Johnson NYC Council – Hon. Keith Powers NYC Council Greener NYC Initiative NYC DOE – NYC Department of Education NYS Assemblyman – Hon. Harvey Epstein NY Power Authority NYSERDA

Foundations

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Organizations

British International School of NY Building Works/NYC District Council of Carpenters The Computer School DJs for Climate Action Erie 1 Boces Fortune Society Green City Force Horace Mann School Jewish Latin Center The Little Red Schoolhouse/Elisabeth Irwin High School LaGuardia Community College Loving Day New York Cares New York Sun Works, Inc. NRDC \ Donna de Costanzo Poly Prep Country Day School PS 21 STRIVE NY/East Harlem Employment Service Stuyvesant Cove Park Assn. Urban Future Lab / NYU Tandon Incubators Variety Boys & Girls Club of LIC Volunteers of America

Partners

2030 District NYC AECOM ADAPT Community Network Alliance for Climate Education ArcheWild Ascendant Neighborhood Development Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development BlocPower **Bluestone Organization Building Works** Brooklyn Borough President - Renewable Energy and Sustainability Taskforce Brooklyn Community Board 6 Brooklyn Movement Center Brooklyn Public Library Brooklyn Workforce Innovations Cameron Engineering City-As-School Community League of the Heights Consolidated Edison Co-op Power Cooper Square Committee Earth Celebrations Environmental Education Advisory Council NYC Farm School NYC Fifth Avenue Committee First Service Energy The Fortune Society Gilbane Bjarke Ingels Group Green City Force Habitat for Humanity NYC Housing Works ICF Inclusive Prosperity Capital Jews for Racial & Economic Justice Joint Ownership Entity NYC LaGuardia Community College Lawyers Alliance for New York Local Initiatives Support Corporation NYC Math for America Manhattan Comprehensive Night and Day High School Natural Resources Defense Council Nazareth Housing New York Botanical Garden New York Cares New York City Community Energy Cooperative New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services New York City Department of Education Brooklyn North STEAM Collaborative Office of Community Schools Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning, English Language Learners Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Learning, STEM Office of Post Secondary Readiness Office of Sustainability New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development New York City Department of Parks and

Recreation New York City Department of Youth and Community Development New York City Economic Development Corp. New York City Energy Efficiency Corp. New York City Environmental Justice Alliance New York City Mayor's Office Center for Youth Employment New York City Mayor's Office of **Environmental Remediation** New York City Mayor's Office of Sustainability New York City Ferry New York City Wildflower Week New York Governor's Office of Storm Recovery New York Lawyers for the Public Interest New York Power Authority New York State Energy Research and **Development Authority** New York Sunworks New York University Partnership for Afterschool Education The POINT Community Development Corporation The Trust for Public Land Queens Public Library Rooftop Films **Riseboro Community Partnership** St. Nicks Alliance School of Visual Arts STRIVE Stuyvesant Cove Park Association StuyTown Property Services Sustainable CUNY United Nations International School UPROSE Urban Homesteading Assistance Board Vote Solar Wavestone WE ACT for Environmental Justice WNET- New York Public Media Zum Schneider

"We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as results." – Herman Melville

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