

EPA's Environmental Justice Government to Government Grants

Program Overview:

- **Program Website:** <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-government-government-program>
- Webinar slides on the program: <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-01/ejg2g-pre-application-webinar.pdf>
- RFP PDF: <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-01/EJG2G%20Request%20for%20Applications%202023.pdf>

Opportunity Summary:

- This program includes four types of opportunities. For local government collaboration with CBOs there is \$20 million and the program anticipates approximately 20 grants available at \$1M each.
- Opportunities require a partnership between a government entity and CBO. Additional government entities partnering in the program are highly encouraged.
- The proposal deadline is Friday, April 14, 2023.

The EJG2G program goals are to:

1. Achieve measurable and meaningful environmental and/or public health results in communities;
2. build broad and robust, results-oriented partnerships, particularly with community-based nonprofit organizations (CBO) within disproportionately impacted areas;
3. pilot activities in specific communities that create transferable models, which can be expanded or replicated in other geographic areas and;
4. strengthen the development and implementation of meaningful approaches to achieve environmental justice.

Applications submitted in response to this funding opportunity that will receive an award must address one of the following five broad categories:

- Community-led air and other pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation, and investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure and workforce development that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants;
- Mitigating climate and health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events;
- Climate resiliency and adaptation;
- Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution; or
- Facilitating engagement of marginalized communities in Local, State and Federal public processes, such as advisory groups, workshops, and rulemakings.

Proposal Concept:

Implementation of the Resilient Washtenaw Plan (Climate Action Plan) through the establishment of a climate resilience hub network throughout Ypsilanti.

Project Partners:

City of Ypsilanti, ICPJ, Washtenaw County, Ypsilanti Community Schools, City of Ann Arbor, SEMIS Coalition, Ypsilanti Library, FedUp,

Funded Partners: City of Ypsilanti, ICPJ, Washtenaw County, YCS, SEMIS Coalition
Information sharing partners/match partners: City of Ann Arbor

Project Description:

The concept for this project is to implement elements of the strategies and actions described in the City of Ypsilanti's 2021 Sustainability Plan and the 2022 Resilient Washtenaw Plan. Based on the priority areas of the EPA EJ GTG program (specifically the prioritization of health and climate adaptation initiatives). The proposal development team believes that advancing the priorities of both plans as they relate to building community resilience through community cohesion, establishment of a strong, interconnected network of resilience hubs, and infrastructure improvements at select resilience hub locations would be highly competitive.

Proposal Development Partners:

ICPJ Staff (Desirae Simmons and Eleanor Ablan Owen), Natalie Sampson, Erica Mooney, Beth Gibbons

Draft Phases for Implementation

Phase 1

- Create a map of existing hubs, show 2-mile radii per Resilient Washtenaw goal parameters, begin to identify community groups, leaders, and other potential hub locations
 - Preliminary meetings with appropriate staff and residents to co-facilitate public engagement
 - Pilot community engagement process at strongest partnership hub location, create calendar of meeting(s) and replicable, living planning materials for Phase 2 & 3
- Create an MOU with City of Ann Arbor regarding technical mentorship/peer-to-peer support with folks from Bryant Community Center, currently skilling up and equipping via USDN Hub design framework (could be adapted for technical partnerships elsewhere, such as with WCC at Parkridge for local base)
- Create materials both physical and digital that accessibly communicate the long-term vision for local Resilience Hubs, including short and medium term example goals such as shower trailer, solar and battery power, food pantry and preparation, emergency preparedness supplies, etc.

Phase 2

- Deep canvassing/multi-pronged outreach campaign for neighborhoods in X radius of hubs

- Iterate based on feedback, integrate channels/resources that folks already get news from
- Integrate feedback from pilot community engagement meeting(s) to design public facing process with a select group of existing hubs, chosen based on capacity of host location and involvement of residents

Phase 3

- Facilitate robust public engagement process, integrating feedback as the meetings progress
- Create phased timelines, budgets, and next steps to fund the implementation of each neighborhood/hubs site specific designs

Potential Partnerships & Existing Hubs

- City of Ypsilanti
 - Freighthouse (Peace House/Warming Centers/SAWC)
 - Parkridge Community Center (Washtenaw Community College)
 - Hope Clinic
 - Beautiful Gate Church
- Washtenaw County Health Department
 - Suite of offices at Towner St.
- Shelter Association of Washtenaw County
- Ypsilanti Community Schools
 - YCS Resilience Center
- Park Ridge Community Center
- Ypsilanti Libraries