

Environmental Justice Small Grants Program

Malama Learning Center Small Grant Success Story

With a \$25,000 Environmental Justice Small Grant award the Malama Learning Center formed a partnership with Leeward Community College, as well as local businesses, government and community groups to launch the "Hawaii Green Collar Institute" (HGCI). The purpose of the institute was to engage high school and college students in learning about public health and climate change issues affecting their communities.

Students learned from professionals about environmental justice issues, conducted team-based research projects, and received training to become better prepared to enter Hawaii's green collar job industry. In March 2011, the Institute honored its first graduating class of 36 students, 40% of which were of Native Hawaiian descent.

The Institute supported their student's transitions into the workforce by offering them career counseling services that include bulletins to green job openings, resume writing workshops, practice job interview sessions, and career fair opportunities.

To read about more projects like this, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>



About the EJ Small Grants Program

EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants program provides financial assistance to community-based organizations, and local tribal organizations and tribal governments working on projects to address environmental and public health concerns. The Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) supports the Plan EJ 2020 strategy through the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program. The program uses grants to strengthen community-based programs that engage overburdened communities and build partnerships to promote environmental well-being and improve public health.

Since its inception in 1994, the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program has awarded more than \$24 million in funding to over 1,400 projects across the country. The Program helps affected communities by providing up to \$25,000 in assistance over a one-year period to create community-based projects. The goal of the Small Grants Program is to help affected communities create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships that will continue to improve local environments.

Is my Organization Eligible?

1. Incorporated, non-profit, community-based organizations. This includes environmental justice networks, faith based organizations and those affiliated with religious institutions;
2. federally recognized tribal governments; OR
3. tribal organizations

AND an eligible applicant must be:

1. Located within the same state, territory, commonwealth, or tribe that the proposed project will be located; federally recognized tribal governments; OR
2. able to demonstrate that it has worked directly with the affected community.

How to apply

To find the application or more information, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

Did You Know?

EPA awarded environmental justice grants to local organizations helping communities affected by the BP oil spill. Funds were used to help address and adapt to the spill's long-term effects.

