



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

THE MISSION

NATIVE Solar's Community Initiatives Program is missioned to disseminate knowledge and foster awareness around the benefits of solar, while informing communities about Solar Jobs emerging from the energy transition. The goal is to make a positive impact through clean energy initiatives and awareness.

Furthermore, NATIVE Solar seeks to establish sustainable relationships with community leaders to spearhead efforts within their districts, counties, and cities.



THE OPPORTUNITY

NATIVE Solar has launched the Solar Jobs program as a catalyst to engage with community leaders to provide jobs and services through Regional Action Plans. With a focus on awareness, solar is now cheaper than fossil fuels and will be a new source of growing demand for electricity.

We need strong leadership at the local level to advance the benefits, considerations and opportunities for a transition to new energy, and its cost savings. This partnership will evolve communities to become more energy efficient.



HOW CAN MY COMMUNITY BENEFIT?

Solar Energy has a range of benefits including reduced energy cost & carbon footprint, and improved efficiency. It now costs less than coal or natural gas, and with "grid parity" (generating power at or below the cost of the electric grid) the benefits to investing in solar are becoming clear to many. So, why do we not see more use of solar? Well, the simplest answer is awareness. For example, knowledge that solar systems can provide back-up power if the grid goes down is not widespread. Additionally, many communities are unaware about how to access solar energy or what job opportunities are available. This program promotes access to information about solar while developing strong community partnerships and customer ("prosumer") engagement.



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PROGRAM DETAILS

There are several potential projects that could occur.

COMMUNITY FUND

NATiVE Solar will take a percentage from each purchase of solar panels and installation in the local area. The contributions will go towards a community fund. This fund will be for community leaders and NATiVE Solar to implement solar panels on a building of the leader's choice. This could be a library, school, police or fire station, etc.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH, SOLAR JOBS PROGRAM AND TRAINING

Community Knowledge: NATiVE Solar will facilitate the spread of media (flyers, online videos, webinars, etc.) that educate consumers about solar energy, understanding the benefits, and whether they qualify as a good candidate to go solar.

SOLAR JOBS PROGRAM

NATiVE Solar's focus is on the energy transition and providing trade skills to support local jobs. To do this, our educational programs promote training for sales and technical skills (electrical contractors).

EXISTING PROGRAM

NATiVE Solar partnered with Solar Austin and their [Pathways to Clean Energy Jobs Program](#) in an effort to improve diversity. This program served as a platform for marketing and community outreach, with a strong focus on workforce diversity and inclusion in solar.

FUTURE PROGRAM

Future programs will seek to inform community members about clean energy jobs and provide greater transparency of the savings benefits. We aim to serve local communities, homeowners, and small to medium size businesses. Together, we can make an impact!

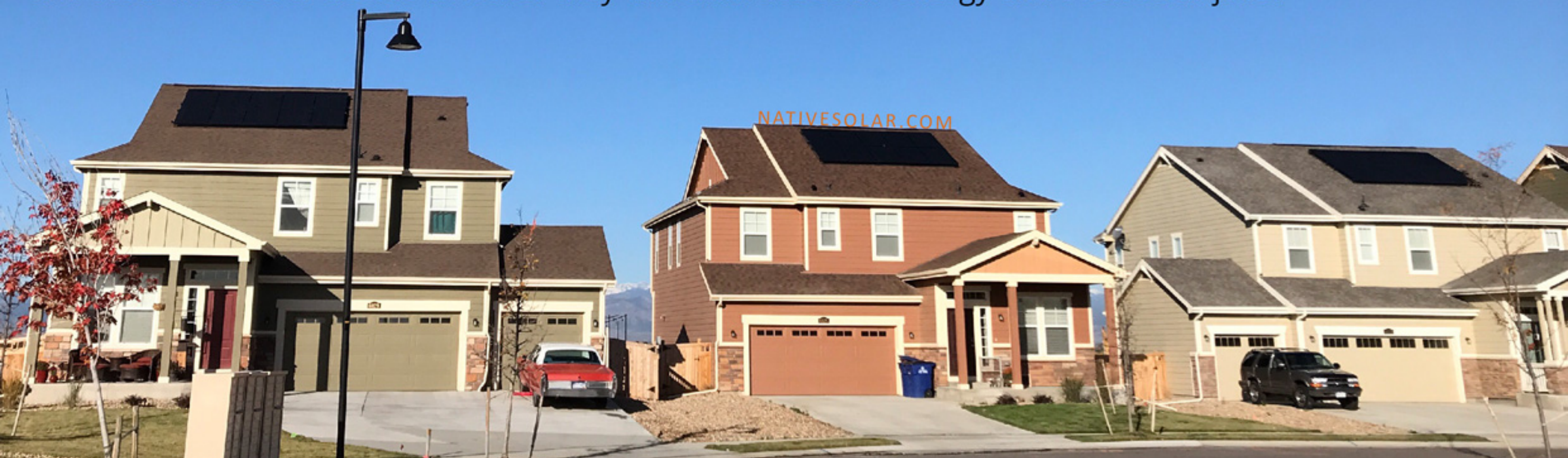
OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE JOBS AND PROVIDE ACCESS TO TRAINING IN OUR TRANSITION FROM FOSSIL FUELS TO CLEAN ENERGY

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

Through local partnerships, NATiVE Solar will create and share videos and online training tools for virtual hosting, community gatherings and web pages, neighborhood association blogs/facebook pages, schools, etc.

NEXT STEPS

Implementing these initiatives requires support from local officials to establish community projects. Support will be needed to champion and share information that NATiVE Solar will provide and support. NATiVE Solar also requests local support to identify opportunities for solar demonstration projects on local community buildings. A successful partnership will benefit the community by giving them the knowledge and tools needed to decide whether they will embrace solar energy and seek solar jobs.



Contact **Daija Chambers** (Community Outreach) or **Paul Watson** (Chief Strategy Officer) for more details.